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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this state-of-the-art report is to describe how handicapped readers in Maine receive their special library services as part of the national network. Handicapped readers are defined as those persons who are unable to read conventional print or handle conventionally printed materials because of some visual or physical impairment. The first part of the report, examining Maine's handicapped reader population itself, discusses the actual participants in the program, and describes the state's efforts to spread the special library services to more eligible handicapped persons who are not yet using them. Part two of the report examines Maine's agencies participating in the program of providing special library services for handicapped readers. Looking to the future, the final chapter recommends the continuation and development of library services for the handicapped, and suggests the use of bookmobiles and telephone hook-ups between the handicapped and the libraries. (Author/SJ)

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LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED IN MAINE
A STATE OF THE ART REPORT

by

Brother Patrick Martin, F.I.C.

A Research Paper Submitted to the Faculty of
The Department of Library Science of The Catholic
University of America in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science
in Library Science.

July, 1970

Washington, D.C.

LI 003 626

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PREFACE

A nine-year-old boy, unable to walk and barely able to see, after some five months of care and treatment in a northern Maine hospital, claimed victory over tubercular meningitis on December 22, 1953, as he rejoined his family in Limestone, Maine. With close to a dozen brothers and sisters at home with him, learning to walk was merely a matter of time and practice. Somewhat inexplicably the boy's focal vision returned sufficiently to permit the reading of conventional print--syllable by syllable.

And now, more than sixteen years later, having completed his education in the Limestone, Maine, public schools, a college-preparatory high school of the Brothers of Christian Instruction in Alfred, Maine, and Walsh College in Canton, Ohio, that same northern-Maine boy is about to complete the requirements for a masters degree in librarianship at the Catholic University of America, in Washington, D.C., under a Higher Education Act Fellowship awarded to him in the spring of 1969. It was here in Washington in the fall of 1969 that that boy, Brother Patrick Martin, first learned about the tremendous program of "library services for the handicapped" that are now available for all who are unable to read or handle conventionally printed materials.

Convinced that many other persons are unaware of the special library services which could benefit them, the author decided to undertake this work of describing all that Maine, his home state, is doing in the area of "library services for the handicapped." It is hoped that with the publication and distribution of this work many other eligible readers will learn of the services available to them.

Very little published material exists on the subject of "Maine's library services for the handicapped." The list of persons and agencies, therefore, whose help was needed, sought, and given enthusiastically for the completion of this work could fill a volume by itself. Approximately two dozen national agencies and organizations serving the handicapped were contacted by the author and most of these responded either with direct information or with helpful suggestions as to pertinent sources for the needed information. At least two of these must be mentioned specifically here. The reference staff at the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Library of Congress made all of their materials on blindness and services for the blind available for the author's use; and, the Washington office of the American Association of Workers for the Blind also opened its reference facilities to the author.

In Maine, much help and enthusiastic support came from all sides. Mr. C. Owen Pollard, Director, Division of Eye Care and Special Services, State Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine, and Mr. Gary Nichols, State Consultant, Library Services for the Visually and Physically

Handicapped, Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine, welcomed and supported the proposed work from the very outset and were most helpful in providing the author with information, statistics, appointments, and other facilities needed for the completion and success of the research project. The regional librarian for the handicapped, Mrs. Billie J. Ouellette, at the Perkins School for the Blind, in Watertown, Massachusetts, which presently serves Maine readers, was most cooperative and did much to see the project to its conclusion. Sr. Mary Miguel, R.S.M., and Sr. Harriet Grondin, C.S.J., heading respectively the two Blind Children's Resource Centers in the state, spared no efforts to aid the author in his research.

A special thanks is due to Mr. Howard Haycraft, Chairman of the Board, The H.W. Wilson Company, who took an interest in the author's project from the beginning and continually sent the author news clippings and other pertinent information for the project. And finally, the author is greatly indebted to Rev. James J. Kortendick, S.S., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Library Science and Head of the Department of Library Science, The Catholic University of America, whose interest in the author's work was shown throughout the duration of the project, and to Mrs. Elizabeth W. Stone, Ph.D, Associate Professor of Library Science and Assistant to the Head of the Department, who directed and encouraged the author in this research venture.

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INTRODUCTION

> "Library services for visually handicapped persons have the same objectives functionally as those for the general public. These objectives would include children and adults learning about the world and people around them; developing skills and knowledge; gathering information relating to work and vocations; filling leisure time profitably for the stimulation and satisfaction that reading can give.
>
> There are differences though in the manner in which reading is accomplished by visually handicapped persons. The methods range from the use of regular books with the print enlarged by mechanical or optical aids; to large type materials; to the spoken word and/or tactile aids such as braille."[1]

The above statement of library objectives would be equally true if the word "visually" were omitted. Originally, the national program of library services for the handicapped as administered by the Library of Congress and regional library system was reserved for the legally blind, persons with "visual acuity for distant vision of 20/200 or less in the better eye with best correction; or visual acuity of more than 20/200 if the widest diameter of field of vision subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees."[2]

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[1] American Foundation for the Blind, Inc., *Program Review: Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine: May 17-21, 1965.* (New York: American Foundation for the Blind, 1965), p. 44.

[2] Maine, Commission on Rehabilitation Needs, *Comprehensive Statewide Planning for Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Final Report.* (Augusta, Maine: Comm. on Rehabilitation Needs, 1969), p. 105.

When the program was set up with the Pratt-Smoot Act of 1931, services were available only for the adult legally blind. An amendment in 1952 brought legally blind children within the scope of these special library services, and finally, with the passage of Public Law 89-522 (July 30, 1966) such services were authorized even for sighted physically handicapped persons.[3] Today, therefore, the word "handicapped" in the phrase "library services for the handicapped" could be defined as including all persons who are unable to read conventional print or handle conventionally printed materials because of some visual or physical impairment. This is the definition upon which this report will be based.

One type of handicapped readers has been deliberately left out of consideration in this report. The deaf, excepting the deaf-blind and/or other multiply impaired deaf readers, for the most part can read and handle conventionally printed materials. Their special library needs would come in the areas of captioned films and the like. Since the scope of this paper aims to include only those unable to make use of conventionally printed books, magazines, etc., it has been decided not to discuss the special library programs for the deaf. Indeed, a follow-up volume to this report could be written on that subject alone.

The national program of library services for the handicapped is a splendid example of current federal-state-individual cooperation. The Library of Congress, designated by the Pratt-Smoot Act as the center of the program, has quickly expanded the network of libraries involved in the library-services-for-the-handicapped program in order to reach handicapped readers all over the country. There are presently some forty-five such "regional libraries for the blind and physically handicapped" and more are in developmental stages. Readers of the United States who cannot handle or read conventionally printed materials can participate in this national program of special library services through one of these regional libraries.

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[3] Howard Haycraft, Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped: A Postscript and An Appreciation, 3d rev. ed., (New York: Wilson, 1968), p. 1.

The purpose of this state of the art report is to describe how handicapped readers in Maine receive their special library services as part of the national network. The first part of the report, examining Maine's handicapped-reader population itself, will first discuss the actual participants in the program and will then go on to describe Maine's efforts to spread the special library services to more eligible handicapped persons who are not yet making use of them. Part two of the report will then speak of Maine's agencies participating in the program of providing special library services for handicapped readers in Maine. Looking to the future, the final chapter will make some recommendations for the continuation and development of library services for the handicapped in Maine.

PART I

MAINE'S HANDICAPPED READERS

CHAPTER 1

PRESENT HANDICAPPED READERS IN MAINE

Eligibility Requirements

> "Public laws 89-522 and 89-511 authorize the Library of Congress to extend its books to those individuals unable to read conventional print because of a physical limitation... The Division of Eye Care and Special Services is the state agency in Maine designated by the Library of Congress for the distribution of Talking Book Machines. Both the machines and recorders are loaned without charge to any individual unable to read conventional print because of a physical handicap... Eligibility requirements are based on the rules and regulations established by the United States Library of Congress, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Eligibility is established as follows:
>
> 1. Blindness or a visual limitation
> 2. Any physical ailment that makes the holding or reading of ordinary books and magazines either impossible or so difficult that it prevents the individual from reading
> 3. A functional disorder due to brain damage."[4]

In this we have the broadest definition of the "handicapped" who may participate in the national program of library services for the handicapped. No longer (since 1966) is legal blindness the minimum requirement for participation. Maine Statutes have been in the forefront for quite some time concerning such participation. In the days when "legal blindness" was the requirement and it was defined as including persons with "visual acuity for distant vision of 20/200 or less in the better eye with best correction, or visual acuity of more than 20/200 if the widest diameter of field of vision subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees,"[5] Maine Statutes defined blindness merely in terms of "any vision handicap which prevents the individual from performing his usual activities."[6] If the words "physical condition" were substituted for "vision" in Maine's definition we would have practically the same definition that is used today in determining eligibility for participation in the library-services-for-the-handicapped program.

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[4] Maine, Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Policy and Procedural Manual. (Augusta, Maine: Department of Health and Welfare, 1969), "Library Services to the Visually and Physically Handicapped," p. 1.

The definition of the "handicapped" today has been left without stringent legal limitations. Each applicant for special library services is treated individually--does his/her handicap, impairment, etc., prevent or seriously hamper the reading of conventionally printed materials? This is today's minimum requirement for participation in the program.

Such indefinite limitations of the definition, however, do not permit accurate, up-to-date statistics concerning the eligibles for participation in the national program of library services for the handicapped. Statistics are available on the "legally blind" and on other types of handicapping conditions to some extent. Maine is estimated, for example, to have approximately 1,850 legally blind persons[7] according to the stricter definition given above, and the June, 1969, Annual Report of the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, Office of Education, Washington, D.C., reports Maine as having some 41,888 handicapped children alone.[8] If statistics concerning the "multiply impaired" are introduced the picture becomes much more complicated. But, such statistics are not altogether meaningful when speaking of the handicapped in relation to the national program of library services for the handicapped. Persons otherwise considered severely handicapped may have no impairment at all when it comes to the use of conventionally printed materials. Others with normal vision might be severely handicapped in their reading because of some nervous disorder. There is no way of measuring such "handicapped" statistics, except to count those already using the services.

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[5] Maine, Commission on Rehabilitation Needs, p. 105.

[6] Maine, Commission on Rehabilitation Needs, p. 105.

Once a handicapped person has submitted his application for special library services to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare, in Augusta, Maine, and it has been approved, his application is forwarded to the Perkins School for the Blind, Watertown, Massachusetts. The library at Perkins serves as "Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped" for Massachusetts and Maine handicapped readers. As of April 1, 1970,

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[7] National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Estimated Statistics on Blindness and Vision Problems. (New York: National Soc. for the Prevention of Blindness, 1966), p. 20.

[8] U.S., Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, Better Education for Handicapped Children. (Washington, G.P.O., 1969), p. 6.

Maine had 717 "readers" registered with Perkins Library. Thirty-eight of these readers were considered to be "physically handicapped" and the remainder were "visually" impaired readers. Some fifty-five percent of these readers were women and about forty-three per cent were male readers. The remaining two per cent of Maine's services from Perkins library as of April 1, 1970, were provided to local libraries, hospitals, and other institutions for use by local handicapped patrons.

Geographical Distribution

A geographical analysis of the 717 present handicapped readers in Maine who are using the library services provided by the library at Perkins School for the Blind will be helpful before considering some of the unique problems to Maine in providing services for handicapped readers. Table, 1, page 9, gives a county breakdown for Maine's 717 present handicapped readers, giving the total number of readers, the per cent of the state's total handicapped-reader population, the number of male and female readers, and the number of institutions receiving services for local patrons, for each of Maine's sixteen counties. Tables 2 through 17, on the following pages, then break down each county's totals by city and town, giving for each the number of visually and physically handicapped male and female readers as well as the number of institutions in each town or city receiving the special library services for local patrons.

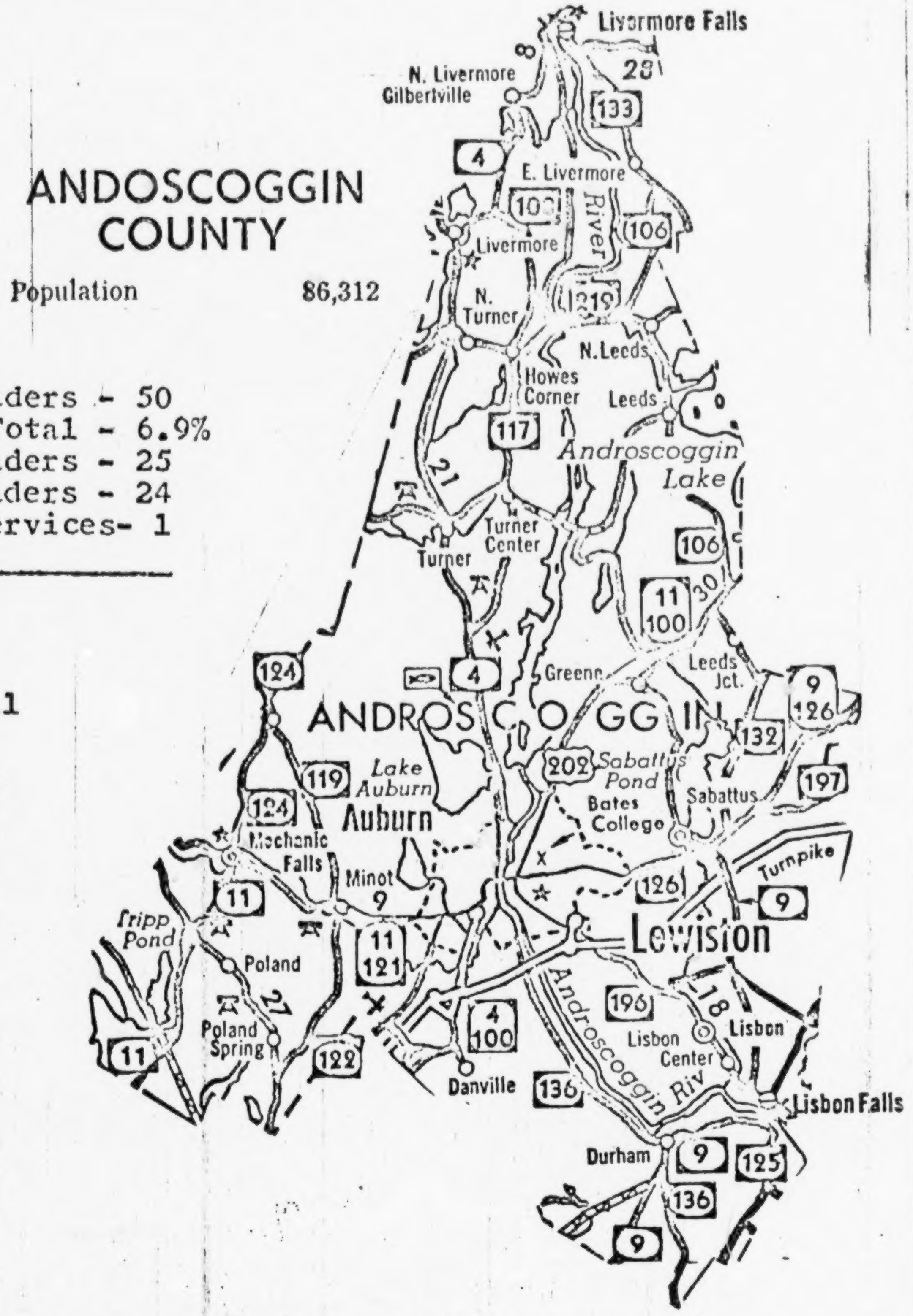
TABLE 1.--County Analysis of Maine's Present Handicapped Readers Receiving Services from the Library at the Perkins School for the Blind[9]

County	Total Handi-Capped Readers	Percentage of State's Total	Total Male Readers	Total Female Readers	Institutions Using Services
Androscoggin	50	6.9%	25	24	1
Aroostook	46	6.4%	19	27	0
Cumberland	186	25.9%	88	94	4
Franklin	17	2.4%	6	11	0
Hancock	39	5.4%	14	25	0
Kennebec	69	9.6%	31	36	2
Knox	29	4.0%	7	20	2
Lincoln	17	2.4%	6	8	3
Oxford	25	3.5%	8	16	1
Penobscot	70	9.8%	25	44	1
Piscataquis	12	1.7%	5	7	0
Sagadahoc	6	0.8%	1	5	0
Somerset	32	4.5%	10	20	2
Waldo	24	3.4%	14	9	1
Washington	25	3.5%	11	14	0
York	70	9.8%	40	30	0
Total	717	100.0%	310	390	17

---

[9] All figures for Tables 1-17 have been computed by the author from the handicapped-reader file at the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine. All figures given in these tables are dated as of April 1, 1970, and include only those readers who are registered as receiving services from the library at the Perkins School for the Blind, Watertown, Massachusetts.

TABLE 2.-- Androscoggin County Handicapped Readers[10]


ANDOSCOGGIN COUNTY
Population 86,312
Livermore Falls
N. Livermore
Gilbertville
E. Livermore
Livermore
River
N. Turner
N. Leeds
Howes Corner
Leeds
Androscoggin Lake
Turner Center
Turner
Greene
Leeds Jct.
ANDROSCOGGIN
Lake Auburn
Auburn
Sabattus Pond
Bates College
Sabattus
Mechanic Falls
Minot
Turnpike
Tripp Pond
Poland
Lewiston
Poland Spring
Androscoggin Riv
Lisbon
Lisbon Center
Danville
Lisbon Falls
Durham
4
133
108
106
219
117
21
106
11
100
30
124
9
126
132
119
202
197
124
126
9
11
11
121
27
196
18
4
100
11
122
136
9
125
136
9

Total Handicapped Readers - 50
Per cent of State's Total - 6.9%
Total Male Readers - 25
Total Female Readers - 24
Institutions Using Services- 1

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I[11]
Auburn	3	8	1	0	0
Danville	1	0	0	0	0
Greene	1	0	0	0	0
Lewiston	9	10	0	1	1
Lisbon	1	0	0	0	0
Lisbon Falls	5	1	0	0	0
Livermore Falls	2	2	0	0	0
Mechanic Falls	0	1	0	0	0
Poland	0	1	0	0	0
Poland Springs	0	1	0	0	0
Turner	0	1	0	0	0

---

[10] All county maps for Tables 2-17 have been taken from Warm, Friendly State of Maine, Facts. (Rockland, Maine: Courier Gazette, 1965), pp. 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, and 51 respectively.

[11] Symbols for Tables 2-17: "Vis." - "Visually Handicapped Readers"; "Phy." - "Physically Handicapped Readers"; "I" - "Institutions using services;" "M" - "Males"; "F" - "Females".

AROOSTOOK COUNTY

Population 106,064

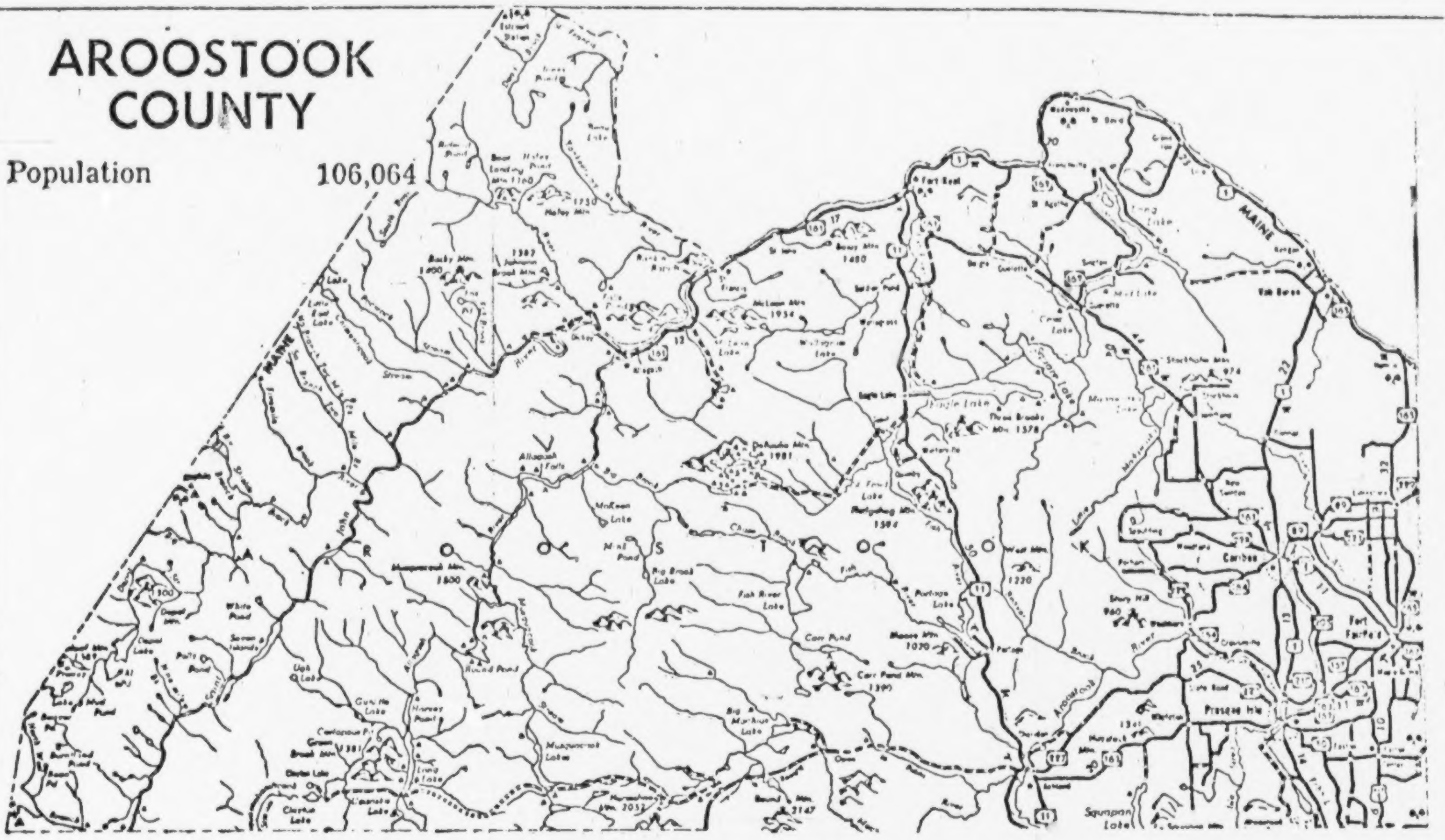


TABLE 3.--Aroostook Cy. Handicapped Readers

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Ashland	1	1	0	0	0
Blaine	0	0	0	1	0
Caribou	5	3	0	0	0
Eagle Lake	0	1	0	0	0
Easton	1	0	0	0	0
Fort Fairfield	1	1	0	0	0
Fort Kent	1	0	0	0	0
Houlton	3	5	1	1	0
Limestone	1	0	0	0	0
Madawaska	0	1	0	0	0
Mapleton	1	0	0	0	0
Mars Hill	0	1	0	0	0
Monticello	0	1	0	0	0
Plaisted	1	0	0	0	0
Presque Isle	2	8	0	1	0
St. John	0	1	0	0	0
Smyrna Mills	1	0	0	0	0
Weston	0	1	0	0	0

Total Handicapped Readers - 46

Per cent of State's Total - 6.4%

Male Readers - 19

Female Readers - 27

Institutions Using Services - 0

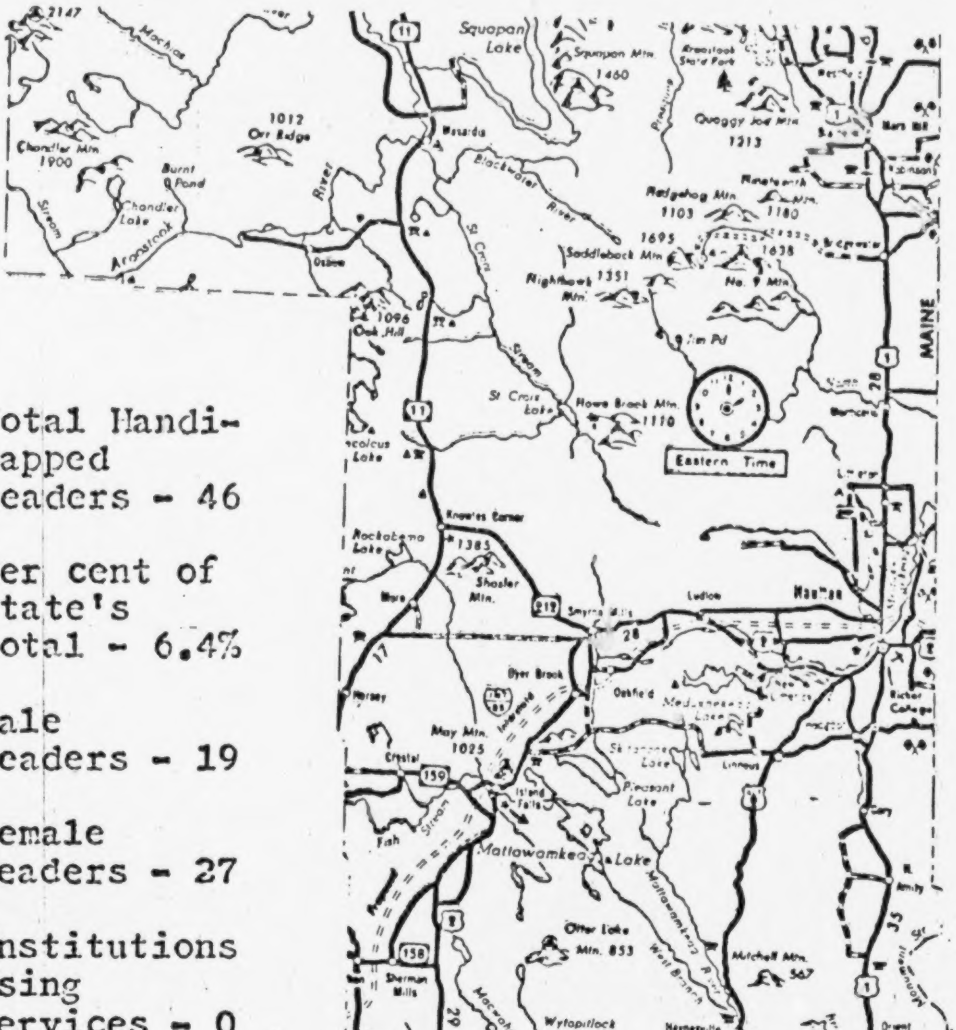


TABLE 4. -- Cumberland County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 186
Percentage of State's Total - 25.9%
Male Readers - 88
Female Readers - 94
Institutions Using Services - 4

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Bailey Island	1	0	0	0	0
Bridgton	1	4	0	0	0
Brunswick	5	4	0	0	1
Cape Elizabeth	2	3	0	0	0
Casco	2	0	0	0	0
Chebeague Island	2	1	0	0	0
Cliff Island	0	1	0	0	0
Cumberland	1	2	0	0	0
East Baldwin	1	0	0	0	0
East Hiram	0	1	0	0	0
Falmouth	1	0	0	1	0
Falmouth Foreside	1	1	0	0	0
Freeport	0	5	2	0	0
Gorham	4	3	0	0	0
Harrison	0	1	0	0	0
Peaks Island	1	1	0	0	0
Portland	38	34	4	2	2
Raymond	0	1	0	0	0
Scarboro	4	1	0	0	1
Sebago Lake	0	1	0	0	0
South Harpswell	0	0	0	1	0
South Portland	8	13	0	0	0
South Windham	3	3	0	0	0
W.Baldwin	0	2	0	0	0
Westbrook	3	3	0	0	1
W.Scarboro	1	2	0	0	0
Yarmouth	3	2	0	0	0

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Population 182,751

CUMBERLAND
Harrison
Bridgton
Casco
Naples
Sebago
Sebago Lake
Douglas Hill
W. Baldwin
E. Baldwin
Steep Falls
Standish
Gorham
Westbrook
Windham
Gray
Pownal
Yarmouth
Freeport
Brunswick
Portland
South Portland
Portland Head Light
Cape Cottage
Pond Cove
Two Lights
Cape Elizabeth
Two Lights State Park
Crescent Beach
Higgins Beach
Prouts Neck
Scarboro
Oak Hill
Cliff Is.
Chebeague Island
Harpswell
Bailey Island
Orrs Island
Casco Bay

TABLE 5. -- Franklin County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 17
Per cent of State's Total - 2.4%
Male Readers - 6
Female Readers - 11
Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Dryden	1	0	0	0	0
Eustis	1	0	0	0	0
Farmington	1	0	0	0	0
Jay	0	1	0	0	0
Kingfield	0	1	0	0	0
New Vineyard	0	1	0	0	0
Phillips	2	2	0	0	0
Rangeley	1	2	0	0	0
Stratton	0	3	0	0	0
Strong	0	1	0	0	0

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Population 20,069

MAINE
Snow Mtn 3948
Eustis Ridge 2040
East Kennebago 3825
Crocker Mtn 4168
Sugarloaf Mtn. 4237
Saddleback Mtn. 4116
Mt. Abraham 4049
Rangeley L.
Mooselookmeguntic Lake
F R A N K L I N
Elephant Mtn. 3774
Tumbledown Mtn 3035
Mt. Blue 3187
Lake Webb
Weld
Phillips
Strong
New Vineyard
Farmington
Wilton
Chesterville
Spruce Mtn. 1120
Parker Pond
Rangeley
Eustis
Stratton
Carthage

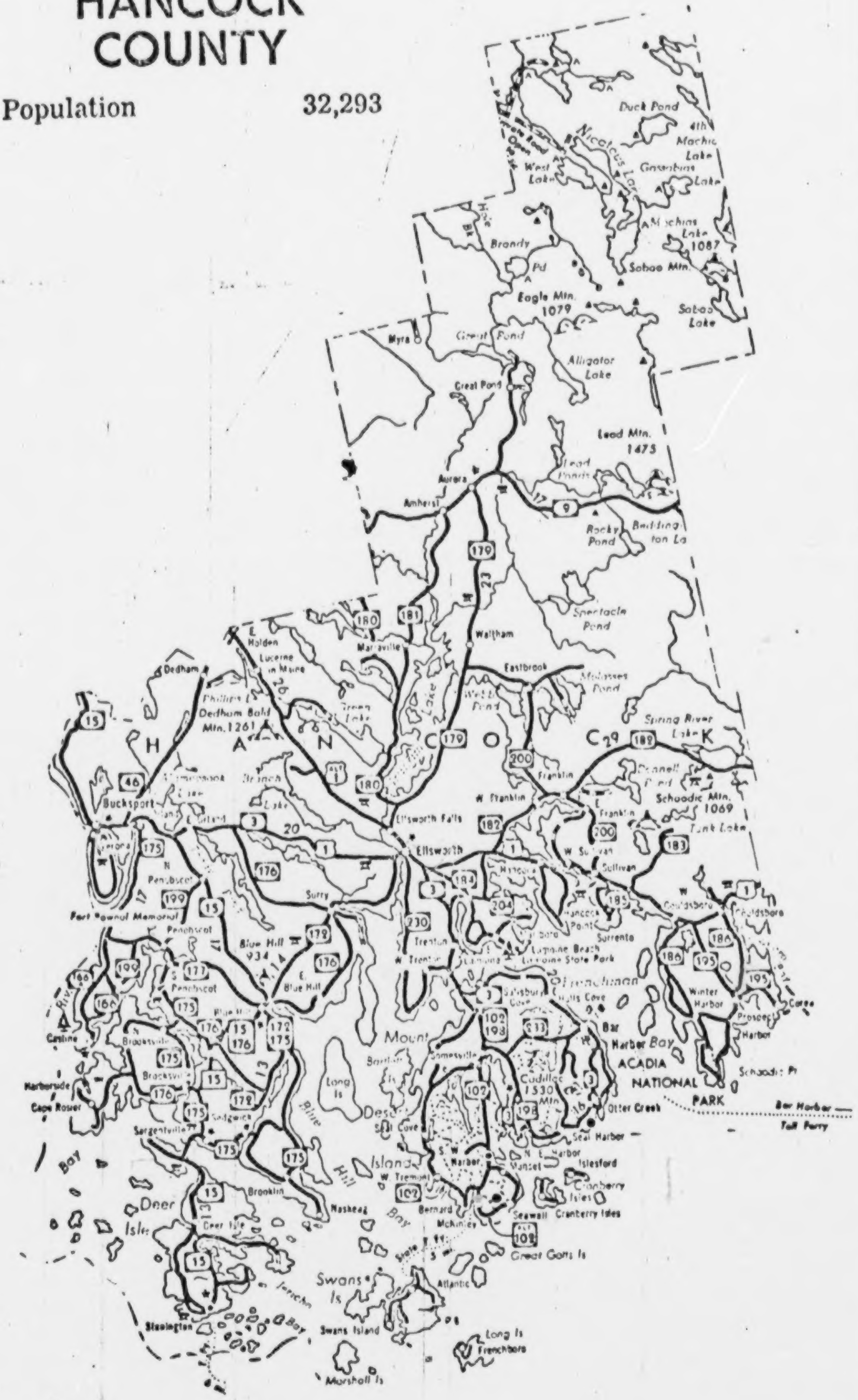
TABLB 6. -- Hancock County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 39
Per cent of State's Total - 5.4%
Male Readers - 14
Female Readers - 25
Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis.		Phy.		I.
	M	F	M	F	
Bar Harbor	0	4	0	2	0
Bernard	0	1	0	0	0
Blue Hill	1	1	0	0	0
Brooksville	1	3	0	0	0
Bucksport	1	1	0	0	0
Ellsworth	1	5	0	0	0
Franklin	1	0	0	0	0
Hancock	1	0	0	0	0
Manset	0	1	0	0	0
Penobscot	1	1	1	0	0
Prospect Harbor	1	0	0	0	0
Sargentville	0	1	0	0	0
Sedgwick	1	0	0	0	0
South Penobscot	1	0	0	0	0
Southwest Harbor	1	2	0	0	0
Stonington	1	0	0	0	0
Swan's Island	0	1	0	0	0
W. Gouldsboro	0	1	0	0	0
Winter Harbor	1	1	0	0	0

HANCOCK COUNTY

Population 32,293



Duck Pond
Nicatous Lake
West Lake
Brandy Pd
Eagle Mtn. 1079
Machias Lake 1087
Sabao Mtn.
Sabao Lake
Myra
Great Pond
Alligator Lake
Lead Mtn. 1475
Aurora
Amherst
Rocky Pond
Beddington Lake
Spectacle Pond
Holden
Mariaville
Waltham
Dedham
Eastbrook
Molasses Pond
Spring River Lake
Phillips Lake
Dedham Bald Mtn. 1261
Green Lake
H
A
N
C
O
C
K
Bucksport
Franklin
Schoodic Mtn. 1069
Tunk Lake
Ellsworth Falls
Ellsworth
W. Franklin
W. Sullivan
Sullivan
Surry
Gouldsboro
Fort Pownal Memorial
Penobscot
Blue Hill 934
E. Blue Hill
Trenton
Hancock Point
Sorrento
Lamoine Beach State Park
Frenchman
Winter Harbor
Prospect Harbor
Castine
Brooksville
Mount
Desert
Island
Somesville
Cadillac 1530 Mtn.
Bar Harbor
Bay
ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
Schoodic Pt
Bar Harbor — Yarmouth Ferry
Harborside
Cape Rosier
Sedgwick
Sargentville
Blue Hill Bay
Long Is
Otter Creek
Seal Harbor
Northeast Harbor
Manset
Islesford
Cranberry Isles
Bernard
Seawall
McKinley
Great Gott Is
Brooklin
Naskeag
Deer Isle
Swans Is
Atlantic
Stonington
Jericho Bay
Swans Island
Long Is
Frenchboro
Marshall Is
3
1
15
46
175
176
177
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
195
199
200
204
230
172
166
102
198

TABLE 7. -- Kennebdc County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 69
Per cent of State's Total - 9.6%
Male Readers - 31
Female Readers - 36
Institutions Using Services - 2

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Albion	0	1	0	0	0
Augusta	9	10	0	0	1
Belgrade	0	1	0	0	0
China	0	1	0	0	0
Clinton	1	1	0	0	0
East Winthrop	0	1	0	0	0
Gardiner	4	3	0	0	1
Hallowell	0	2	1	0	0
Monmouth	1	0	0	1	0
Mount Vernon	0	1	0	0	0
Oakland	1	0	0	0	0
Randolph	2	0	0	0	0
Readfield	0	1	0	0	0
South Gardiner	0	1	0	0	0
Togus	3	0	0	0	0
Waterville	7	7	0	1	0
Windsor	0	1	0	0	0
Winslow	0	1	0	0	0
Winthrop	2	2	0	0	0

KENNEBEC COUNTY

Population 89,150

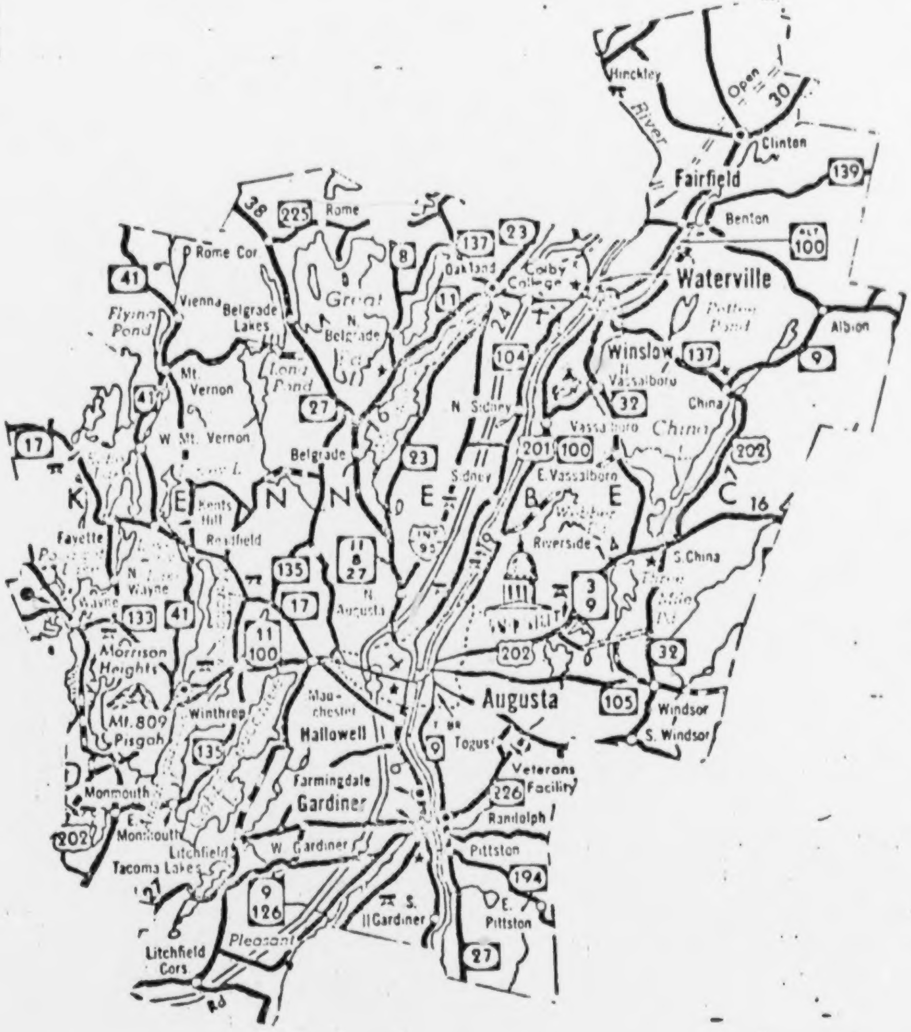

Hinckley
Clinton
Fairfield
Benton
Waterville
Rome
Rome Cor
Vienna
Belgrade Lakes
Oakland
Colby College
Albion
Winslow
Vassalboro
China
Mt. Vernon
W. Mt. Vernon
Belgrade
N. Sidney
Sidney
E. Vassalboro
K E N N E B E C
Fayette
Kents Hill
Readfield
Riverside
S. China
Wayne
N. Wayne
Morrison Heights
Mt. 809 Pisgah
Winthrop
Manchester
Hallowell
Augusta
Togus
Veterans Facility
Windsor
S. Windsor
Monmouth
E. Monmouth
Farmingdale
Gardiner
Randolph
Litchfield
W. Gardiner
Pittston
Tacoma Lakes
S. Gardiner
E. Pittston
Litchfield Cors
Pleasant

TABLE 8. -- Knox County Handicapped Readers

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Camden	2	5	0	0	0
Friendship	0	1	0	0	0
Glen Cove	1	0	0	0	0
North Haven	1	1	0	0	0
Rockland	3	7	0	0	2
Thomaston	0	2	0	0	0
Vinalhaven	0	3	0	0	0
Warren	0	1	0	0	0

Total Handicapped Readers - 29
Percentage of State's Total - 4.0%
Male Readers - 7
Female Readers - 20
Institutions Using Services - 2

KNOX COUNTY

Population **28,575**

Washington Pond
105
131
Appleton
23
Washington
Stickney Cor.
126
17
Hope
235
105
Camden Hills State Park
Camden
Rockport
Union
E. Union
S. Hope
W. Rockport
90
K N O X
Glen Cove
Warren
Rockland
Thomaston
1
S. Warren
97
Cushing
131
73
Owls Head
S. Thomaston
Spruce Head
Long Cove
Tenants Harbor
Friendship
Port Clyde
Muscongus Bay
Georges Is.
Metinic Is.
Matinicus Is.
Matinicus
Criehaven
Ragged Is.
State Toll Ferry
Toll Ferry
Pulpit Harbor
North Haven Is.
N. Haven
Vinalhaven Is.
Vinalhaven
Isle au Haut Bay
Isle au Haut
Lookout
Isle Au Haut
Acadia National Park

TABLE 9. -- Lincoln County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped
Readers - 17
Per cent of State's
Total - 2.4%
Male
Readers - 6
Female
Readers - 8
Institutions
Using
Services - 3

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Boothbay Harbor	0	1	0	0	0
Cooper's Mills	0	1	0	0	1
Damariscotta	0	1	0	0	0
Dresden	1	0	0	0	0
East Boothbay	1	1	0	0	0
Pemaquid	0	1	0	0	0
Round Pond	1	0	0	0	0
South Bristol	1	0	0	0	0
Waldoboro	2	2	0	0	2
White-field	0	0	0	1	0

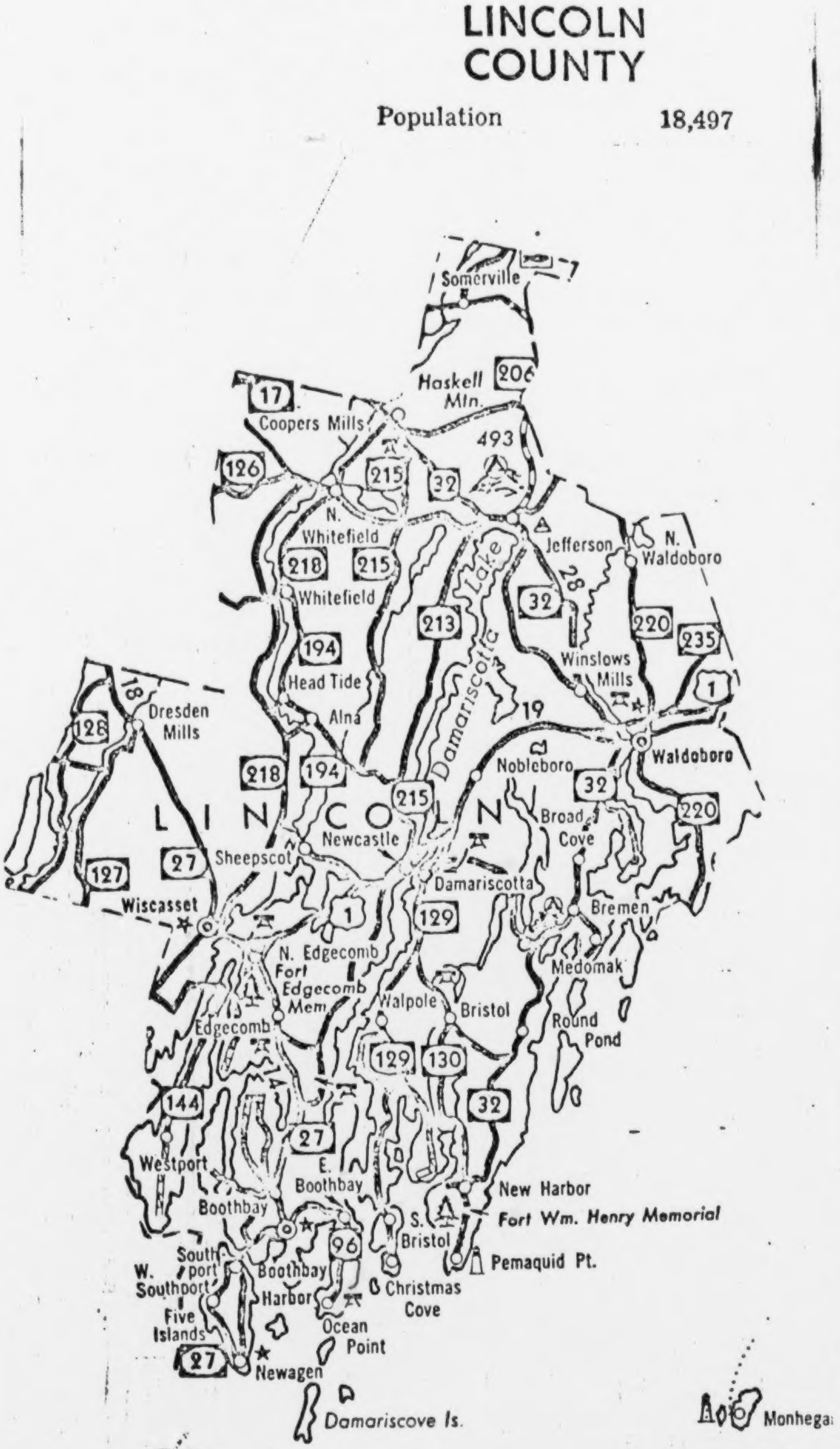
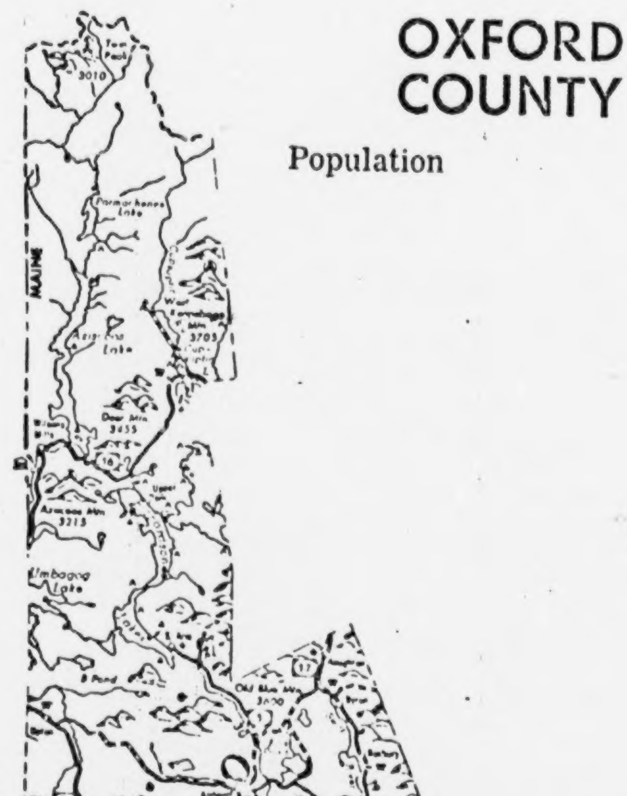

LINCOLN
COUNTY
Population 18,497
Somerville
Haskell Mtn.
Coopers Mills
N. Whitefield
Whitefield
Jefferson
N. Waldoboro
Damariscotta Lake
Winslows Mills
Head Tide
Alna
Dresden Mills
Waldoboro
Nobleboro
LINCOLN
Broad Cove
Newcastle
Sheepscot
Wiscasset
Damariscotta
Bremen
N. Edgecomb
Fort Edgecomb Mem.
Medomak
Walpole
Bristol
Edgecomb
Round Pond
Westport
E. Boothbay
New Harbor
Fort Wm. Henry Memorial
Boothbay
S. Bristol
Pemaquid Pt.
South port
W. Southport
Boothbay Harbor
Christmas Cove
Five Islands
Ocean Point
Newagen
Damariscove Is.
Monhega
17
126
206
493
215
32
218
28
213
220
235
194
18
1
19
129
127
27
130
144
96

TABLE 10. -- Oxford County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 25
Per cent of State's Total - 3.5%
Male Readers - 8
Female Readers - 16
Institutions Using Services - 1

City	Vis.		Phys.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Bethel	1	2	0	0	0
Brownfield	0	1	0	0	0
Bryant Pond	0	1	0	0	0
Buckfield	0	1	0	0	0
Dixfield	0	1	0	0	0
East Andover	0	1	0	0	0
Hebron	1	0	0	0	0
Mexico	0	2	0	0	0
Newry	1	0	0	0	0
Norway	1	2	0	1	0
Rumford	2	1	0	0	1
South Paris	0	1	0	0	0
Waterford	0	1	0	0	0
West Paris	0	1	0	0	0
West Peru	2	0	0	0	0



OXFORD COUNTY

Population 44,345

TABLE 11. -- Penobscot County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 70
Per cent of State's Total - 9.8%
Male Readers - 25
Female Readers - 44
Institutions Using Services - 1

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Bangor	11	18	0	0	1
Bradley	0	2	0	0	0
Brewer	1	1	0	2	0
Carmel	0	1	1	0	0
Carroll	0	1	0	0	0
Charleston	1	0	0	0	0
Corinna	0	1	1	0	0
Dexter	1	1	0	0	0
Dixmont	0	1	0	0	0
East Corinth	0	1	0	0	0
Garland	0	1	0	0	0
Hampden Highlands	0	1	0	0	0
Howland	2	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	2	2	0	0	0
Lincoln Center	0	0	0	1	0
Millinocket	1	1	0	0	0
Newport	0	2	0	0	0
Old Town	2	3	0	0	0
Orono	1	1	0	0	0
Orrington	0	1	0	0	0
Patten	1	1	0	1	0

PENOBSCOT
COUNTY

Population 126,346

PENOBSCOT
Bangor
Old Town
Millinocket

TABLE 12. -- Piscataquis County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 12

Per cent of State's Total - 1.7%

Male Readers - 5

Female Readers - 7

Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Brownville	1	0	0	0	0
Dover-Foxcroft	2	1	0	0	0
Greenville Junction	0	2	0	0	0
Greenville	1	2	0	0	0
Guilford	0	1	0	0	0
Monson	0	1	0	0	0
Sebec Village	1	0	0	0	0

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY

Population 17,379

Chamberlain Lake
Churchill Lake
Eagle Lake
BAXTER STATE PARK
MT KATAHDIN
Moosehead
Lake
P I S C A T A Q U I S
Sebec Lake
Schoodic Lake
Foxcroft

TABLE 13. -- Sagadahoc County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 6

Per cent of State's Total - 0.8%

Male Readers - 1

Female Readers - 5

Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Bath	0	4	0	0	0
Georgetown	0	1	0	0	0
Topsham	1	0	0	0	0

SAGADAHOC COUNTY

Population 22,793

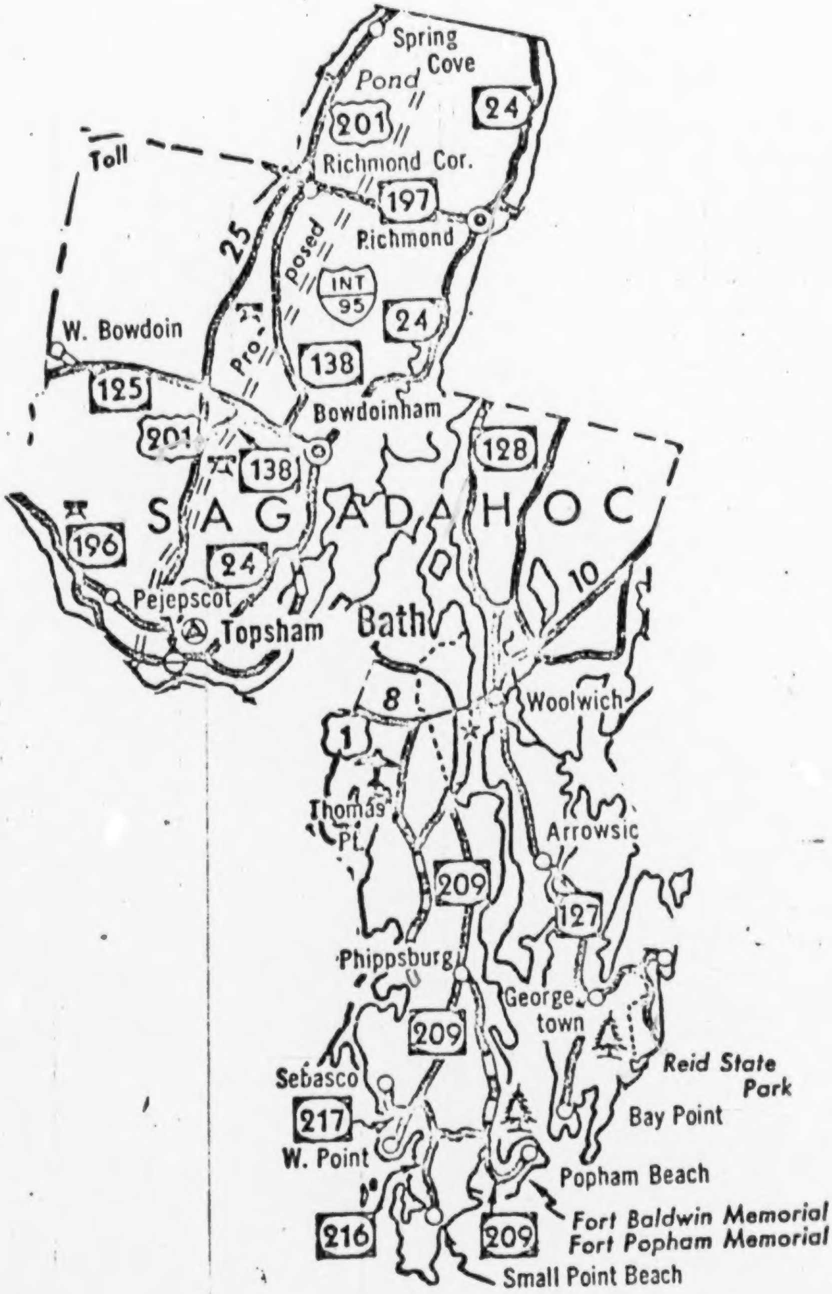

Spring Cove
Pond
201
24
Toll
Richmond Cor.
197
Richmond
25
Proposed
INT 95
24
W. Bowdoin
138
125
Bowdoinham
201
128
138
SAGADAHOC
196
24
10
Pejepscot
Topsham
Bath
8
Woolwich
1
Thomas Pt.
Arrowsic
209
127
Phippsburg
Georgetown
209
Reid State Park
Sebasco
Bay Point
217
W. Point
Popham Beach
216
209
Fort Baldwin Memorial
Fort Popham Memorial
Small Point Beach

TABLE 14. -- Somerset County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 32
Per cent of State's Total - 4.5%
Male Readers - 10
Female Readers - 20
Institutions Using Services - 2

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Anson	1	0	0	0	0
Bingham	1	0	0	0	0
Cambridge	1	0	0	0	0
Canaan	0	1	0	0	0
Detroit	1	0	0	0	0
Fairfield	1	3	0	0	0
Harmony	1	1	0	0	0
Jackman	0	2	0	0	0
Madison	1	1	0	0	0
Norridgewock	1	0	0	0	0
North Anson	0	2	0	0	0
North New Portland	1	1	0	0	0
Pittsfield	0	3	0	0	2
Skowhegan	1	6	0	0	0

SOMERSET COUNTY

Population 39,749

TABLE 15. -- Waldo County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 24

Per cent of State's Total - 3.4%

Male Readers - 14

Female Readers - 9

Institutions Using Services - 1

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Belfast	4	2	1	0	1
Brooks	0	1	0	0	0
Burnham	1	0	0	0	0
Lincolnville	1	2	0	0	0
Monroe	0	1	0	0	0
Stockton Springs	2	0	0	0	0
Thorndike	3	0	0	0	0
Unity	0	2	0	0	0
Winterport	2	1	0	0	0

WALDO COUNTY

Population 22,632

Sebasticook River
Burnham
Winnecook Lake
Unity
Troy
Dixmont
Mt. Harris
Jackson Corners
Jackson
Monroe
Winterport
Frankfort
Mt. Waldo 1062
Ft. Knox St. Pk.
Prospect
Sandy Point
Stockton Springs
Thorndike
Brooks
Freedom
Knox Center
Waldo
Swanville
Searsport
Sandy Pd.
Frye Mtn. 1140
City Point
Lake St. George State Park
Center Montville
Morrill
Belfast
Moose Pt. State Park
Fort George Memorial
Penobscot
Liberty
N. Searsmont
Searsmont
Belmont Corner
Palermo
St. George
Sheepscot Pd.
Northport
Pripet
Islesboro
Lincolnville Cen.
State T. Fy. 3 mi.
Lincolnville
Dark Harbor
Penobscot
W A L D O
11
100
9
47
139
220
7
38
141
69
1
35
174
202
15
137
203
131
18
3
12
17
173
52
27
235

TABLE 16. -- Washington County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 25

Per cent of State's Total - 3.5%

Male Readers - 11

Female Readers - 14

Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis.		Phy.		I
	M	F	M	F	
Addison	1	0	0	0	0
Baring	1	0	0	0	0
Calais	0	1	0	0	0
Cherryfield	1	0	0	0	0
Columbia Falls	0	3	0	0	0
Cutler	1	0	0	0	0
Eastport	3	2	0	0	0
Jonesport	1	1	0	0	0
Lubec	1	3	0	0	0
Machias	1	4	0	0	0
Woodland	1	0	0	0	0

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Population 32,908

TABLE 17. -- York County Handicapped Readers

Total Handicapped Readers - 70
Per cent of State's Total - 9.8%
Male Readers - 40
Female Readers - 30
Institutions Using Services - 0

City	Vis. M	Vis. F	Phy. M	Phy. F	I
Alfred	1	1	0	0	0
Berwick	2	1	0	0	0
Biddeford	3	3	0	0	0
East Lebanon	2	0	0	0	0
E. Waterboro	1	0	0	0	0
Eliot	1	0	0	0	0
Kennebunk	1	2	0	0	0
Kezar Falls	0	2	0	0	0
Kittery	5	2	0	0	0
Kittery Point	1	0	0	0	0
Newfield	1	0	0	0	0
Ogunquit	0	1	0	0	0
O. Orchard Beach	4	3	0	0	0
Saco	7	4	1	0	0
Sanford	3	6	1	0	0
Shapleigh	0	1	0	0	0
South Berwick	2	1	0	0	0
Springvale	2	2	0	0	0
Wells	1	0	0	0	0
York	1	1	0	0	0

YORK COUNTY

Population 99,402

Kezar Falls
Parsonsfield
Cedar Mtn. 1229
E. Parsonsfield
Limington
E. Limington
Limerick
Maplewood
Newfield
N. Waterboro
W. Buxton
Buxton
Bar Mills
Hollis Center
W. Newfield
Balch Pond
N. Shapleigh
Ross Corner
Ossipee Hill 1058
Great East Lake
Acton
Shapleigh
Waterboro Center
E. Waterboro
Waterboro
W. Scarboro
Saco
Old Orchard Beach
Ocean Park
S. Acton
Emery Mills
Goodwins Mills
Biddeford
Alfred
Camp Ellis
Hills Beach
Biddeford Pool
Ridley Hill 760
Springvale
E. Lebanon
West Lebanon
Lebanon Center
Sanford
Nasson College
Kennebunk
Arundel
Goose Rocks Beach
Cape Porpoise
Kennebunkport
S. Lebanon
Kennebunk Beach
Wells
N. Berwick
Wells Beach
Berwick
Moody
Ogunquit
So. Berwick
Vaughn W. Memorial
Bald Head Cliff
Bald Head
Cape Neddick
York Beach
York Village
S. Eliot
York Harbor
Fort McClary Memorial
Kittery Point
Kittery
Y O R K

CHAPTER 2

POTENTIAL HANDICAPPED READERS IN MAINE

One of the characteristics which might best describe the entire library-services-for-the-handicapped program from its beginning right up to the present is "expansion." From the very outset of the program the librarians for the handicapped have had to seek out the handicapped in order to inform them of the services which are available. Even though the program for the blind was underway back in 1931 with the passage of the Pratt-Smoot Act, many blind persons still are not being reached with reading services.

The 717 readers discussed in chapter 1 are but one third of the total population of the legally blind in Maine. If the physically handicapped are added the percentage shrinks still more. Several factors help to account for this small number of persons being reached by Maine's program of library services for the handicapped.

First of all, the figure 717 given previously does not account for all of the handicapped readers receiving "special library services" in Maine. Rather, as it was pointed out, that figure refers only to those receiving services through the Regional Library at Perkins School for the Blind. There are braille, talking-book, talking-magazine, and tape services provided for these readers through this regional library. Many other reader services, however, are provided by the Maine State Library and were therefore not covered in the handicapped-reader survey discussed in the previous chapter. Such library aids as page turners, magnifiers, magnifying sheets, bedspecs, reading stands, and magnifier view tables are loaned for reader use throughout the state by the Maine State Library. An analysis of these services will be treated Chapter 6 which discusses the state library and its role in the program for handicapped readers. Thus, the total figure of those receiving special library services is well over the 717 figure given earlier. Since the services of the State Library are provided whenever possible through the local libraries, exact statistics as to the number of persons using the materials are not available.

Several other reasons that might help account for the apparently small number of handicapped persons who are being reached by the library services program lie with the handicapped themselves:

> "Use of the Talking Book Service is not as widespread among visually handicapped people as would be desirable, as indicated above. Some of this may be accounted for by reason that many blind persons in Maine, as in the nation, are in the older age group; many were not readers when they had their sight; and many speak patois French as their cultural language and find it difficult to listen to English for any length of time."[12]

> "Maine has one of the highest ratios of the aged (65 years of age and older) to total population in the country. And it is in this age group that the increase in blindness and

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[12] A.F.B., Program Review...May 17-21, 1965, p. 45.

> visual handicap is occurring. In one clinic service (Mansfield at Thayer), the aged were said to constitute about 75% of the patients served. Nursing home patients are increasing in number and here, too, the aged account for the major portion of that increase."[13]

Old age, foreign tongue, and/or lack of reading habits before the onset of the handicapping condition can and apparently do create a certain amount of apathy among the handicapped toward the library services offered to them.

"In addition, there has not been a consistent method for informing the public about this service. At times, the clerk in charge of keeping the records for this program has talked with personnel from nursing homes and homes for the aged, and some brochures have been distributed."[14] By the very fact of their being handicapped, it cannot be expected that blind and physically handicapped persons will have ready access to information on services. They cannot be expected to "hunt for themselves" as persons without their impairments. Ways and opportunities for bring information to the handicapped about the services, benefits, and aids available to them must be tried and made to work. Every opportunity for informing the public at large and the handicapped in particular must be grasped.

The 1967 Campaign To Reach More Readers

The Maine State Library and Division of Eye Care and Special Services joined their efforts in 1967 to take advantage of the widening of the library-services-for-the-handicapped program (to reach the physically and visually handicapped) to spread Maine's services among many more readers. The services of Mrs. Mary Ken Grant, a Maine librarian who is now retired, were enlisted to publicize all of the available services throughout the state. Television appearances, convention speeches, luncheons, ... were only a few of the "roads" to the public taken by Mrs. Grant with her talking book machines and other reading aids for demonstration. She and other personnel traveled all over the state publicizing the services.

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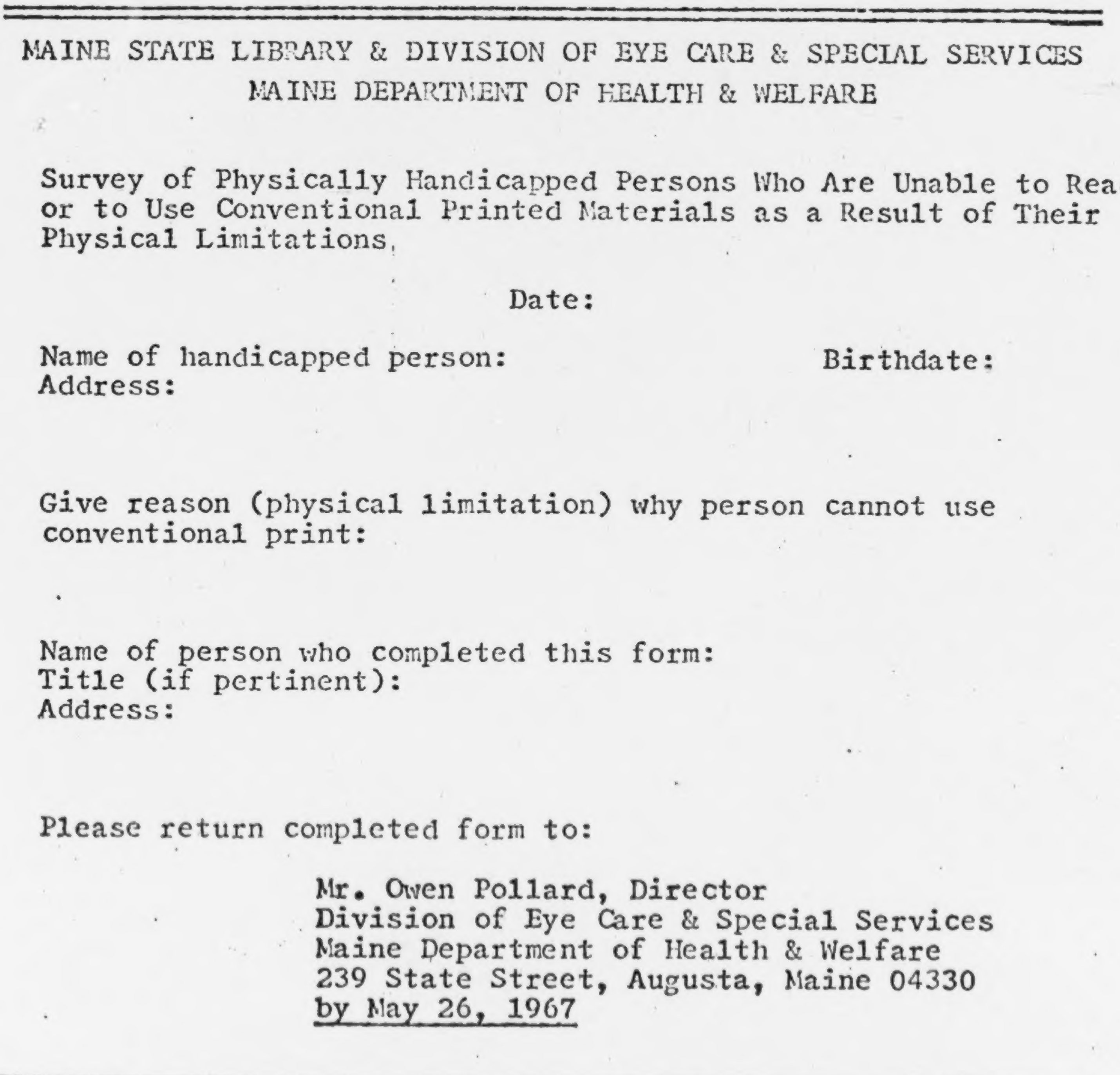
[13] A.F.B., Program Review...May 17-21, 1965, p. 40.

[14] A.F.B., Program Review...May 17-21, 1965, p. 45.

In conjunction with Mrs. Grant's efforts to spread "the good news" a special survey was prepared for locating more potential readers among Maine's handicapped population. The method chosen for reaching these handicapped readers was to deal with public agencies that were expected to have direct contact with handicapped individuals. Some 3000 survey forms were distributed among the state's public libraries, public health nurses, community health organizations, schools, nursing homes and boarding homes, cerebral palsy centers, and even among individuals who might be expected to have contacts with handicapped persons. Each agency, nurse, librarian, etc., was asked to seek out the handicapped of his/her locale, clientele, etc., and complete one form for each individual judged eligible for participation in the special library services program.

Several letters were sent out along with the packets of survey forms. One memo, addressed to the public librarians of the state, solicited their special aid: "In order to have



MAINE STATE LIBRARY & DIVISION OF EYE CARE & SPECIAL SERVICES
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

Survey of Physically Handicapped Persons Who Are Unable to Read or to Use Conventional Printed Materials as a Result of Their Physical Limitations.

Date:

Name of handicapped person: Birthdate:
Address:

Give reason (physical limitation) why person cannot use conventional print:

Name of person who completed this form:
Title (if pertinent):
Address:

Please return completed form to:

Mr. Owen Pollard, Director
Division of Eye Care & Special Services
Maine Department of Health & Welfare
239 State Street, Augusta, Maine 04330
by May 26, 1967

Fig. 1.--Survey Form Used in 1967 Campaign

a contact point in as many towns as possible, we should like to be able to announce that anyone knowing of a physically handicapped person who might take advantage of this service should notify the public library. Will you please let us know at once if you cannot do this?"[15] A general letter was then sent out with the survey forms to those librarians that agreed to help as well as to all of the other public agencies

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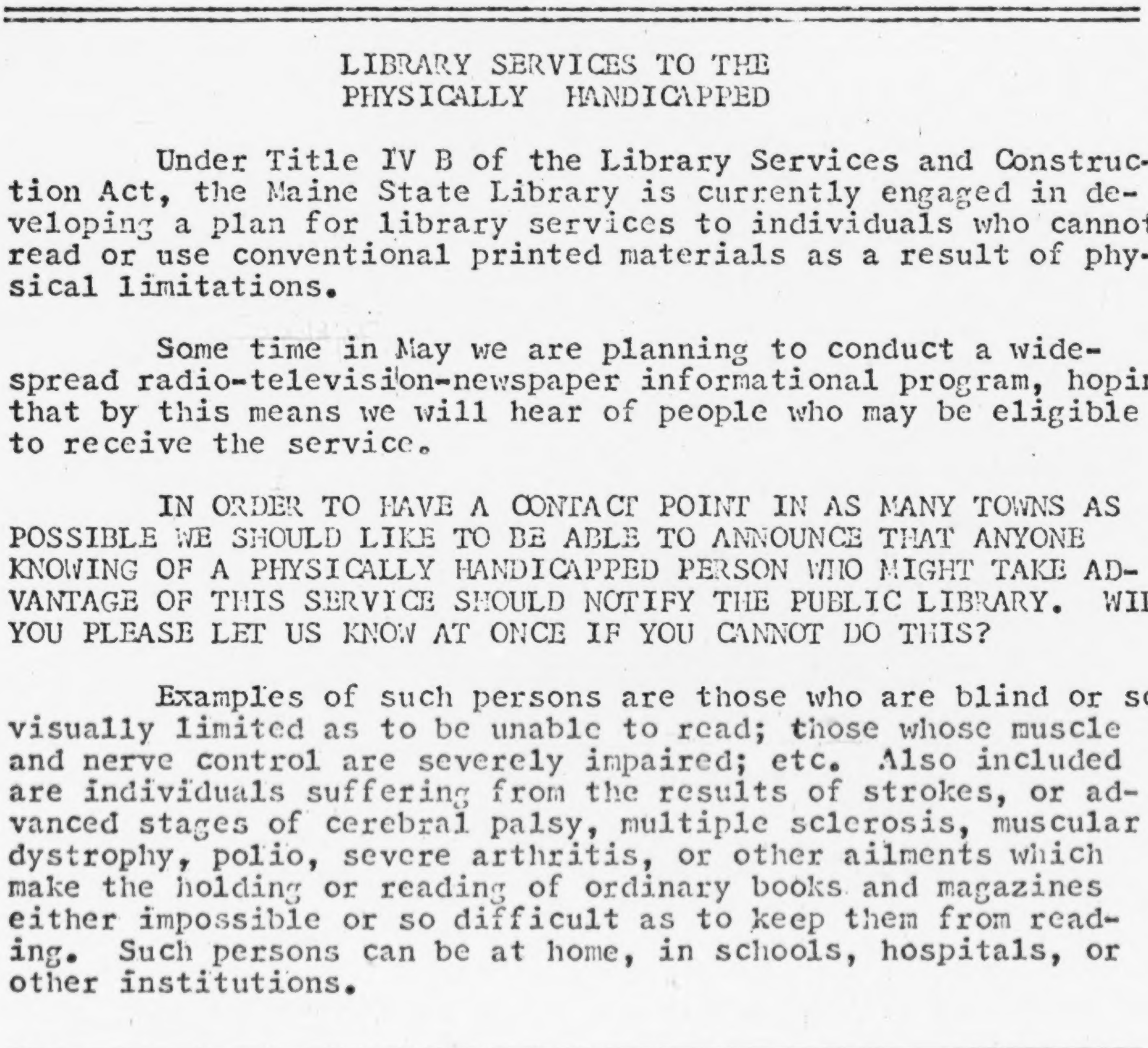
[15] Fig. 2.--, p. 31, "Letter to Public Librarians, 1967 Campaign."



LIBRARY SERVICES TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Under Title IV B of the Library Services and Construction Act, the Maine State Library is currently engaged in developing a plan for library services to individuals who cannot read or use conventional printed materials as a result of physical limitations.

Some time in May we are planning to conduct a widespread radio-television-newspaper informational program, hoping that by this means we will hear of people who may be eligible to receive the service.

IN ORDER TO HAVE A CONTACT POINT IN AS MANY TOWNS AS POSSIBLE WE SHOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE THAT ANYONE KNOWING OF A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSON WHO MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SERVICE SHOULD NOTIFY THE PUBLIC LIBRARY. WILL YOU PLEASE LET US KNOW AT ONCE IF YOU CANNOT DO THIS?

Examples of such persons are those who are blind or so visually limited as to be unable to read; those whose muscle and nerve control are severely impaired; etc. Also included are individuals suffering from the results of strokes, or advanced stages of cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, polio, severe arthritis, or other ailments which make the holding or reading of ordinary books and magazines either impossible or so difficult as to keep them from reading. Such persons can be at home, in schools, hospitals, or other institutions.

Fig. 2.--Letter to Public Librarians, 1967 Campaign

mentioned previously who were expected to have direct contact with handicapped persons and who had agreed to help in this 1967 campaign for spreading library services to more handicapped readers in Maine. This letter explained the campaign and its aims: "The program aims to procure reading aids in sufficient quantity to meet the need for them. It is with estimating need that we request your assistance. This you can give us by completing one of the attached survey forms for each physically handicapped person you know who cannot use conventional print but could read were a reading aid provided."[16] May 26, 1967, was announced as the date for the return of the completed survey forms to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services.

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[16] Fig. 3.--, pp. 32-33, "Memo to Agencies Contributing to 1967 Campaign."

MAINE STATE LIBRARY & DIVISION OF EYE CARE & SPECIAL SERVICES
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE .

Memo To: Those requested to contribute to a survey of physically handicapped persons who are unable to read or to use conventional printed materials as a result of their physical limitations

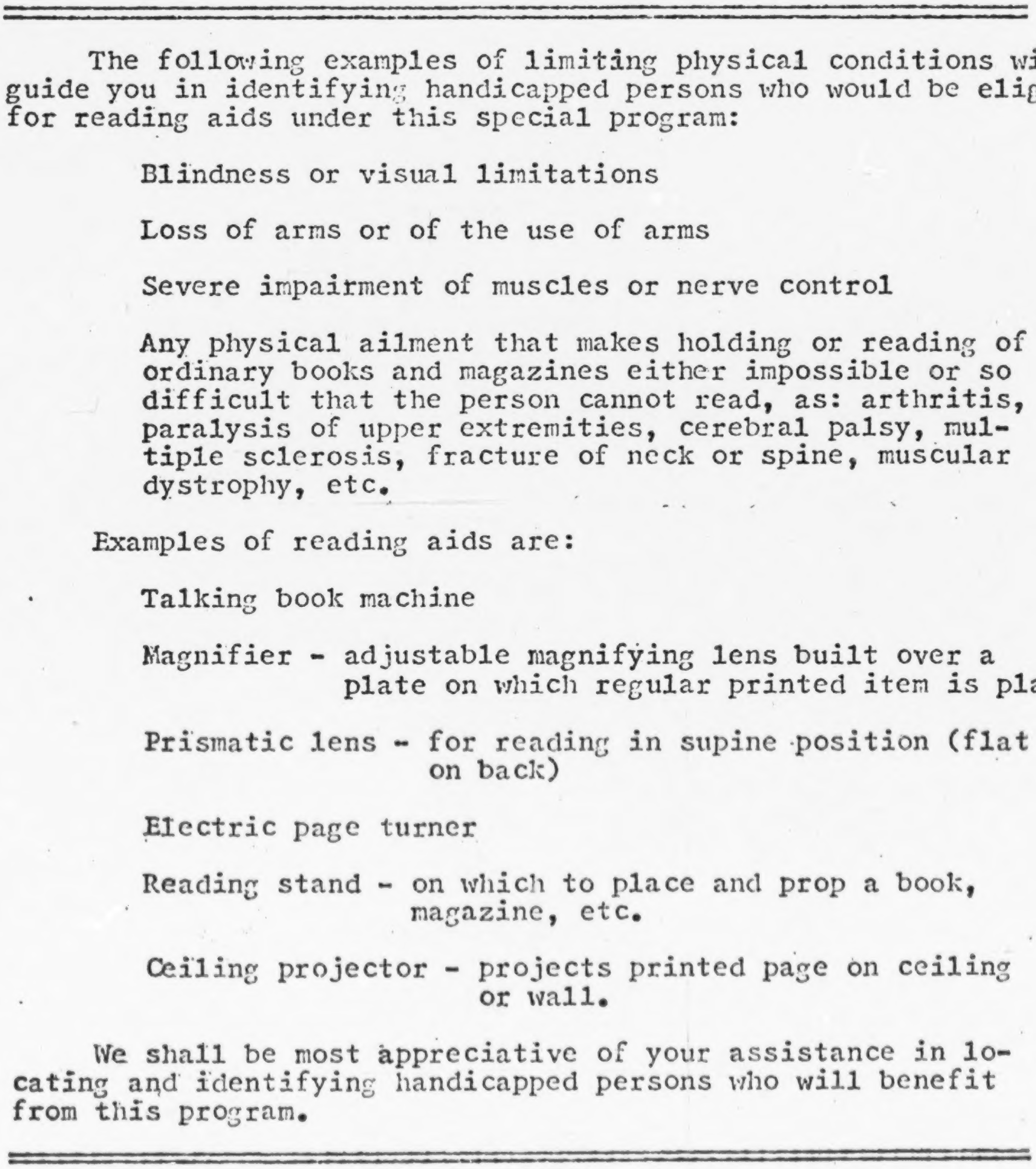
From: Ruth A. Hazelton, State Librarian, and
Owen Pollard, Director, Division of Eye Care & Special Services, Maine Department of Health and Welfare

We have good news for physically handicapped persons who are denied the benefits and pleasure of reading because of their physical limitations. There is opportunity now to procure reading aids for them.

Under Title IVB of the Library Services and Construction Act funds are available in this fiscal year to plan for the establishment and improvement of library services to physically handicapped persons who are unable to read or to use conventional printed materials as a result of physical limitations. The State Library is responsible for administering this program and has the cooperation of the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare. A Council has been set up to assist in developing the program. It is composed of representatives of agencies throughout the State that work with physically handicapped persons.

The program aims to procure reading aids in sufficient quantity to meet the need for them. It is with estimating need that we request your assistance. This you can give us by completing one of the attached survey forms for each physically handicapped person you know who cannot use conventional print but could read were a reading aid provided. Please return completed forms by May 26, 1967, so that the request for funds, which must be substantiated by evidence of need, can be submitted in June, 1967.

Fig. 3.--Memo to Agencies Contributing to 1967 Campaign



The following examples of limiting physical conditions will guide you in identifying handicapped persons who would be eligible for reading aids under this special program:

Blindness or visual limitations

Loss of arms or of the use of arms

Severe impairment of muscles or nerve control

Any physical ailment that makes holding or reading of ordinary books and magazines either impossible or so difficult that the person cannot read, as: arthritis, paralysis of upper extremities, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, fracture of neck or spine, muscular dystrophy, etc.

Examples of reading aids are:

Talking book machine	
Magnifier	adjustable magnifying lens built over a plate on which regular printed item is placed
Prismatic lens	for reading in supine position (flat on back)
Electric page turner	
Reading stand	on which to place and prop a book, magazine, etc.
Ceiling projector	projects printed page on ceiling or wall.

We shall be most appreciative of your assistance in locating and identifying handicapped persons who will benefit from this program.

Fig. 3.--Continued

The survey brought in some 280 completed forms to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services. Of the 284 forms returned, 22 merely indicated that there were no handicapped persons to report. Forty-three per cent of the remaining 262 forms were completed and submitted to the Division of Eye Care by public health nurses, community health associations, and the like, across the state. Public librarians from all over the state collectively sent in about twenty-one per cent of the 262 registrations; nursing home administrators sent in approximately fifteen per cent of the forms; nine per cent came from cerebral palsy centers in several parts of the state; and three per cent came from local schools. The remaining nine per cent, attributed to "miscellaneous", were sent in by individuals, relatives of the handicapped persons concerned, ministers, and the like.

It was stated earlier that "Maine has one of the highest ratios of the aged (65 years of age and older) to total population in the country. And it is in this age group that the increase in blindness and visual handicap is occurring... Nursing home patients are increasing in number and here, too, the aged account for the major portion of that increase."[17] These statements are borne out by an analysis of this physically-handicapped-reader survey of 1967 in Maine. According to Tables 18 and 19, pages 35 and 36 respectively, which analyze this 1967 survey, some 52 per cent of the 262 persons whose survey forms were sent in were registered as being 66 years of age or older. The percentage jumps to 56 per cent if age 61 is used as the cut-off line, and up to 61 per cent when those persons over age 50 are considered. Thirty-two out of thirty-nine persons who were registered for the survey by nursing home administrators are 66 years of age or older;

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[17] A.F.B., Program Review...May 17-21, 1965, p. 40.

TABLE 18.--Survey Analysis #1, 1967 Campaign to Reach Physically Handicapped Readers[18]

Age Group	Sex[19]			Handicap[20]			Agency Submitting Form[21]					
	M	F	N	V	P	N	1	2	3	4	5	6
96 -100	1	3	0	1	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
91 - 95	4	12	0	16	0	0	7	4	3	0	0	2
86 - 90	8	21	0	24	5	0	9	8	5	0	0	7
81 - 85	9	20	0	26	3	0	4	10	10	0	1	4
76 - 80	8	13	0	13	8	0	4	11	4	0	1	1
71 - 75	6	17	0	13	8	2	2	13	5	0	0	3
66 - 70	6	7	0	10	3	0	3	2	7	0	0	1
61 - 65	3	9	0	6	6	0	2	7	2	0	0	1
56 - 60	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
51 - 55	4	6	0	2	8	0	0	8	1	0	0	1
46 - 50	0	9	0	5	4	0	2	6	1	0	0	0
41 - 45	3	4	0	5	2	0	0	4	3	0	0	0
36 - 40	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
31 - 35	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
26 - 30	1	3	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	0
21 - 25	5	4	0	1	8	0	0	4	1	3	1	0
16 - 20	9	12	0	13	8	0	0	12	2	6	1	0
11 - 15	7	6	0	6	7	0	0	1	0	10	2	0
6 - 10	10	3	0	9	4	0	0	10	1	0	2	0
Age Not Given	6	12	2	11	6	3	2	5	8	3	0	2
TOTAL	94	166	2	165	92	5	39	114	55	23	8	23
% of TOTAL	36%	63%	1%	63%	35%	2%	15%	43%	21%	9%	3%	9%

---

[18] The analysis of the 1967 Campaign survey to reach more physically handicapped readers has been made by the author himself from the survey forms which had been kept and were given to him for analysis in February, 1970.

[19] "M"- "Male"; "F"-"Female"; "N"-"Not indicated on form."

[20] "V"-"Visual"; "P"-"Physical"; "N"-"Not indicated on form."

[21] 1-Nursing homes; 2-Public Health Nurses, etc.; 3-Public libraries; 4-Cerebral Palsy Centers; 5-Schools; 6-Miscellaneous.

TABLE 19.--Survey Analysis #2, 1967 Campaign to Reach Physically Handicapped Readers

Age Group	Androscoggin	Aroostook	Cumberland	Franklin	Hancock	Kennebec	Knox	Lincoln	Oxford	Penobscot	Piscataquis	Sagadahoc	Somerset	Waldo	Washington	York	Not Given	Total
96 -100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
91 - 95	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	16
86 - 90	0	3	3	1	0	3	2	3	4	1	0	3	2	1	0	3	0	29
81 - 85	3	3	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	3	1	4	2	0	1	4	0	29
76 - 80	0	4	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	4	0	21
71 - 75	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	2	5	1	23
66 - 70	1	1	2	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	13
61 - 65	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	12
56 - 60	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
51 - 55	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	0	10
46 - 50	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	9
41 - 45	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7
36 - 40	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
31 - 35	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
26 - 30	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
21 - 25	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	9
16 - 20	2	2	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	21
11 - 15	0	1	5	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	13
6 - 10	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	3	0	13
Age Not Given	1	3	3	0	3	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	20
Total	18	32	28	7	17	12	6	9	13	24	8	13	16	11	9	36	3	262
% of Total	7%	12%	11%	3%	7%	5%	2%	3%	5%	9%	3%	5%	6%	4%	3%	14%	1%	100%

twenty-three of them were 81 years old or more at the time of the survey. Only eighteen per cent of all those registered were below 21 years old.

A close examination of the tabulation of this survey as well as the handicapped-reader-file survey discussed in the first chapter will reveal still another problem which confronts those responsible for bringing library services to Maine's handicapped readers. That almost insurmountable obstacle is geography. The 717 handicapped readers presently being served through the Perkins library are spread out over a state which is some 400 miles in length and whose largest city does not exceed 150,000 in population. Group or concentrated services are not possible in a vast state such as this with a primarily "rural" population.

Cumberland County, the Portland metropolitan area, claims the largest percentage of the 717 active readers using Perkins' services, and that percentage is only 25.9. Penobscot and York Counties follow Cumberland with each having 9.8 per cent of Maine's present handicapped readers using the Perkins library services. That leaves approximately fifty-five per cent of the state's handicapped-reader population distributed over the other thirteen counties which together comprise almost three-fourths of the state's area. With 380 readers spread so thinly over the state, communication and services must be accomplished almost on a one-to-one basis. This does pose problems as far as administration and personnel for the program are concerned.

The 1967 survey backs up the reader-file survey concerning this geographical dilemma. In 1967 York County claimed the largest percentage of those forms that were submitted to the Division of Eye Care, fourteen per cent or thirty-six potential handicapped readers in all. Aroostook County followed with thirty-two potential readers reported, and Cumberland County came in third with twenty-eight physically handicapped potential readers being reported in the survey. Almost a hundred readers out of the 262 submitted fell in three counties once again. If the needs of each individual who was reported as being a potential user of the services were to be seriously investigated an awful lot of traveling would have to be done, not to mention the time and resources that would be expended in such a tour of investigation. Maine's program of library services for the handicapped will necessarily be highly individualized because of this geographical characteristic.

The chief purpose of the 1967 survey of Maine's physically handicapped potential users of the special library services was to enable a realistic estimate as to the quantity of those services and reading aids that would be needed now that the program was opened up to other than the legally blind. Many of the readers listed in this 1967 survey are now receiving special library services for which they were recommended by the library or public agency. The actual effectiveness of the entire 1967 campaign in expanding Maine's program of services to new readers will be discussed at the end of this chapter, after the "Share Campaign" section.

SHARE Campaign, 1969

The 1967 survey revealed the tremendous number of potential handicapped readers in the state. As 1968 wore on ways and methods of reaching all of these potential readers and those who were not registered in the 1967 survey were being discussed and investigated. The "SHARE (So Handicapped All Read Easily) Campaign" was gradually taking shape to help increase the number of those handicapped readers participating in Maine's program of special library services.

Four main objectives were determined for the SHARE Campaign:[22]

1. To make all Maine residents who are eligible for the services and devices aware they are available and how to obtain them.
2. To reach persons who deal directly with those eligible for services and devices and encourage them in the promotion of more extensive aid to the physically and visually handicapped.
3. To create a general public awareness of the program, its objectives and accomplishments.
4. To work directly with local groups interested in the program to provide them with suggested activities, materials, and advice that will aid them in providing the manpower to achieve the general objectives of the program.

SHARE was not to be a one-effort event, but a continuing campaign for uniting handicapped readers and library services.

In order to insure the continued effectiveness of SHARE immediate, specific aims were set for the first year of the campaign, aims that could be realistically met in 1969. Mr. Gary Nichols, State Consultant, Library Services for the Visually and Physically Handicapped, Maine State Library, summarized these specific goals for 1969 in his "The SHARE Campaign," which was prepared for the regional librarians for the handicapped meeting in New York in May, 1970:[23]

---

[22] Maine, SHARE, Manual. (Hallowell, Maine: SHARE, 146 Second Street, 1969), "SHARE - Purpose", unpaged.

> "It was felt that objectives of the program could best be achieved by setting certain specific and somewhat limited goals, particularly in the first year, and focus all efforts on trying to do a thorough job in achieving these goals. In keeping with this aim one of the goals set for the first year was the formation of a statewide committee that would organize, direct, and coordinate the efforts of groups that are interested in the problems of library services for the handicapped.
>
> A second goal was to gain the effective participation of Lions' Clubs and other local community organizations and outline a program they can carry out.
>
> We would also have local organizations forward information on the needs of the handicapped to the local library and work with local librarians to achieve a coordinated effort.
>
> In the first year of the campaign a kit would be prepared for local use containing posters, large type flyers, photographs of available equipment, and a brochure outlining the services and containing application forms.
>
> Another goal for the opening year would be to provide special information service for local use such as press releases, photographs of equipment, lists of goals and suggested activities."

The goals were specific, tangible, and could be measured as to their success or failure of achievement.

---

[23] Fig. 4.--, pp. 41ff, "The SHARE Campaign," by Gary Nichols, State Consultant, Library Services for the Visually and Physically Handicapped, Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine.

The SHARE Campaign

SHARE (So Handicapped All Read Easily) is a program jointly sponsored by the Maine State Library and the Division of Eye Care of the Maine Department of Health and Welfare. The program was entirely funded through Title IV B of the Library Services and Construction Act.

The initial impetus of the program was the result of disappointment with the numbers of people taking advantage of the 1966 amendment extending the Talking Book program to the physically handicapped, the results of a survey indicating a large number of handicapped in Maine but few taking advantage of reading aids, and the availability of Federal funds to do something about it. The objectives of the program were:

1. To make most of Maine residents who are eligible for services and devices aware they are available and how to obtain them.

2. To reach persons who deal directly with those eligible for services and encourage them in the promotion of more extensive aid to the handicapped.

3. To work directly with local groups interested in the program to provide them with suggested activities, materials, and advice that will aid them in providing the manpower to achieve the objectives of the program.

4. To design the program and activities in such a way that they can be carried on in a similar way in future years and continue to unite reader and services.

It was felt that objectives of the program could best be achieved by setting certain specific and somewhat limited goals, particularly in the first year, and focus all efforts on trying to do a thorough job in achieving these goals. In keeping with this aim one of the goals set for the first year was the formation of a statewide committee that would organize, direct, and coordinate the efforts of groups that are interested in the problems of library services for the handicapped. A second goal was to gain the effective participation of Lions' Clubs and other local community organizations and outline a program they can carry out. We would also have local organizations forward information on the needs of the the handicapped to the local library and work with local librarians to achieve a coordinated effort. In the first year of the campaign a kit would be prepared for local use containing posters, large type flyers, photographs of available equipment, and a brochure outlining the services and containing application forms. Another goal for the opening year would be to provide special information service for local use such as press releases, photographs

Fig. 4.--The SHARE Campaign, A Summary by Gary Nichols, State Consultant for the Handicapped, Maine State Library

of equipment, lists of goals and suggested activities.

Past efforts have indicated that publicity through mass media is not always effective in reaching the handicapped. Goals were designed to achieve a more personal and locally-oriented approach rather than concertrating efforts on the promotion of general public awareness.

The services of ARCO Incorporated, a public relations firm in Augusta, was engaged for all technical aspects of the program. This involved arranging and planning all meetings before and after the selection of a statewide committee and to act as consultant for the selection of committee members. They also acted as secretary for the state committee, setting up meeting places, preparing agendas and reports of meetings, notifying members of meetings, and working with the state chairman to provide any type of secretarial and office facilities required. ARCO was also responsible for writing, printing, and arranging for the distribution of necessary press releases, feature articles, instructions to local organization, pamphlets, posters, photographs, and all other materials. ARCO handled all correspondence generated by mailings on a day-to-day basis. Follow-up mailings were made to statewide organizations who had not responded to the original invitation to join the SHARE committee. The printing of sufficient copies of posters, kits, and other materials to supply all public libraries and participating local groups was another ARCO service. They were also responsible for preparing a proclamation for SHARE month for the Governor's approval and preparing mailings, letters, etc. to be made by the state committee to get local participation.

Considering the extent of services rendered we are indebted to ARCO for a very reasonable fee. This was possible because traditionally ARCO has been library spirited and has taken a special interest in the development of Maine libraries. Reduced costs were also possible because of ARCO's unique facilities which include its own media print, photograph, and design shops.

An analysis of the SHARE campaign six months after closing, indicates that the results from the project being directed strictly toward local outlets tends to be somewhat less dramatic, but steadier and much longer duration.

Conventional publicity through mass media brings a sudden flurry of activity that soon dies down as the publicity fades. However, working directly with people at the local level and involving them in the project causes a familiarity with the subject that is recalled for some time. Verification of this is seen in the steady flow of applications received by the State Library and the Division of Eye Care. The number of Talking Book subscribers has significantly increased. Also of interest is the fact that requests for speakers on the SHARE program have developed over a period of time and are

Fig. 4.--Continued

increasing as time passes. We received excellent cooperation of many public libraries but there is still a need for a specific report or study of the extent of local group and library participation. Until this is achieved the study of the results of the project remains incomplete. One other measure of success has already been attained through bringing together, for the first time in Maine, all of the agencies concerned in any way with the handicapped to work on a common project and to achieve a unified objective.

Perhaps our enthusiasm for the project has been sustained most by such comments as that of an 87 year old woman who received a magnifier view table, "Imagine, at 87 I have begun to come to life again."

Fig. 4.--Continued

With a preliminary meeting held on December 11, 1968, it could be said that the SHARE Campaign of 1969 was on its way. The services of ARCO, Inc., were enlisted for the preparation, publication and distribution of brochures, posters, flyers, photographs, and news releases. ARCO was also responsible for the provision of any secretarial and office facilities needed during the campaign by the state committee. Finally, it was decided that the campaign should be promoted by a statewide committee rather than a single state agency. The purposes of the committee as outlined in the SHARE Manual are as follows:

> 1. "Approval by the committee of the statewide program would give it more backing than if it originates with a single state agency.
>
> 2. While the committee would not be expected to put in a large amount of time working directly on the program, it could hold several meetings to direct attention and publicity to the program.
>
> 3. Members of the committee, to the extent they are able, could be used in appearances on TV or before civic groups to explain and promote the program."[24]

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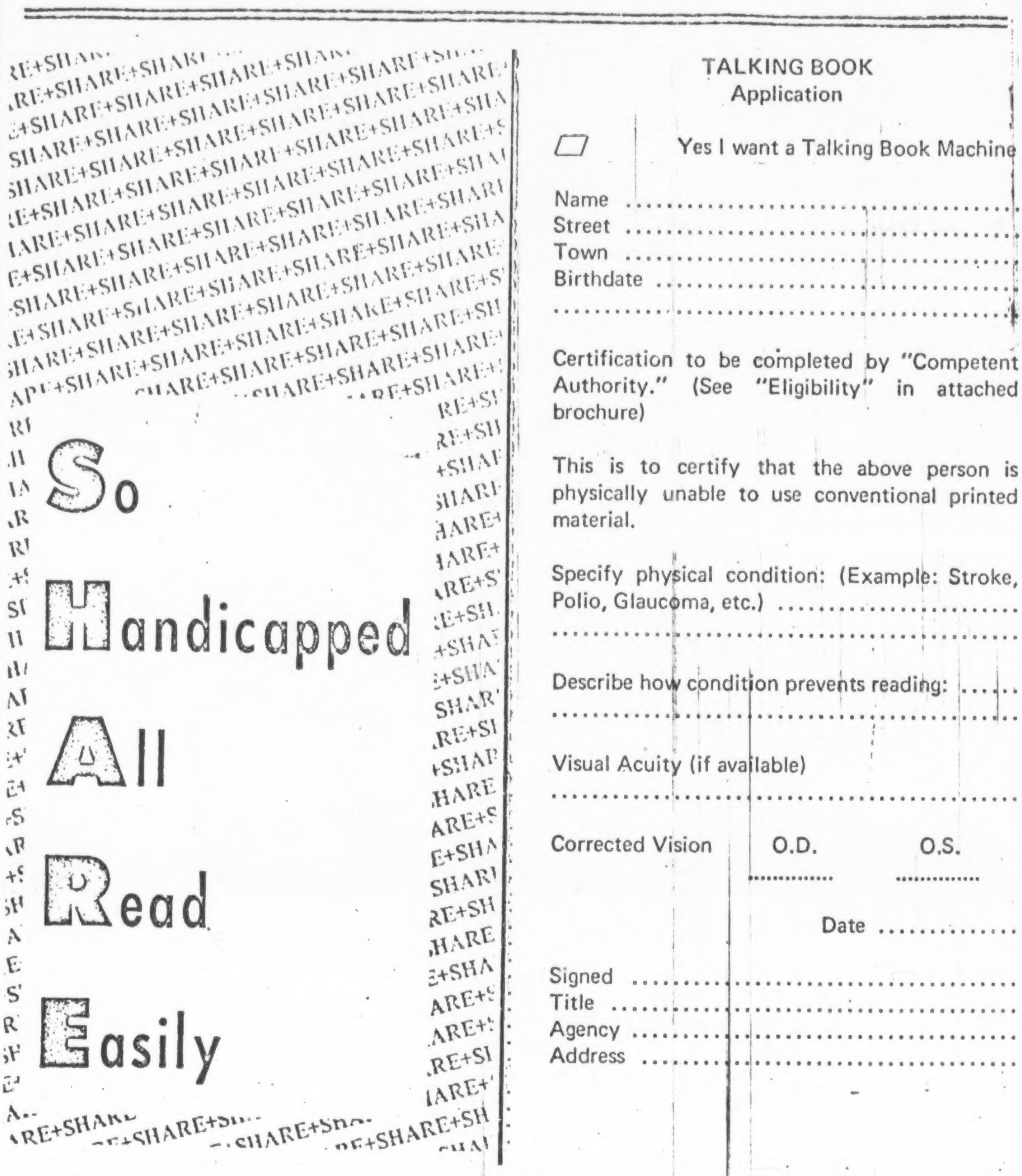
[24] Maine, SHARE Manual, unpaged.



So
Handicapped
All
Read
Easily

TALKING BOOK
Application

☐ Yes I want a Talking Book Machine

Name ....
Street ....
Town ....
Birthdate ....
....

Certification to be completed by "Competent Authority." (See "Eligibility" in attached brochure)

This is to certify that the above person is physically unable to use conventional printed material.

Specify physical condition: (Example: Stroke, Polio, Glaucoma, etc.) ....
....

Describe how condition prevents reading: ......
....

Visual Acuity (if available)
....

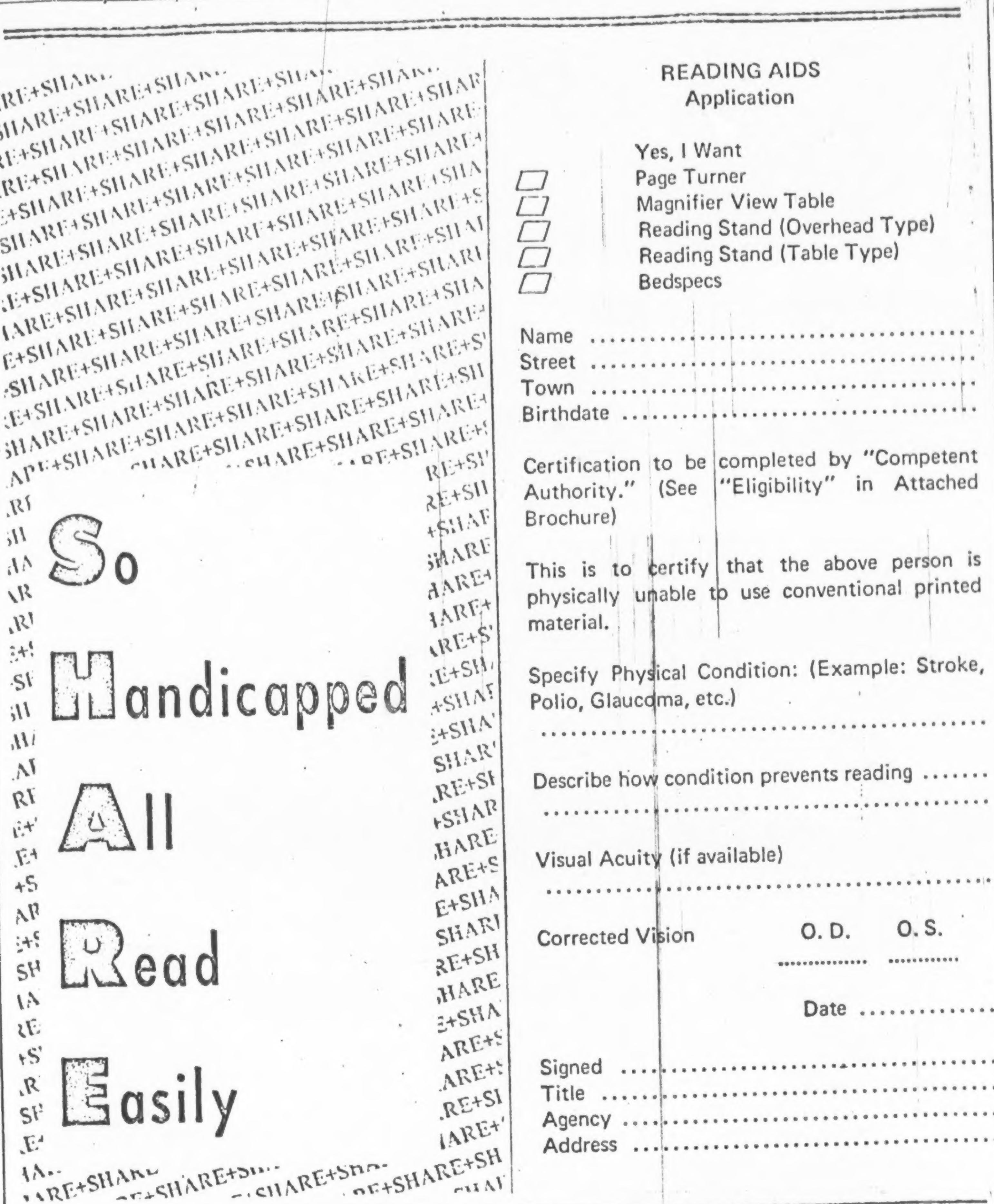
Corrected Vision O.D. .... O.S. ....

Date ....

Signed ....
Title ....
Agency ....
Address ....

Fig. 5.--SHARE Brochure - Application for Talking Book Service

The first meeting of this STATE SHARE COMMITTEE took place on June 11, 1969, at the Augusta House, Augusta, Maine. At this meeting State Chairman, Sumner J. Goffin, was appointed to



SHARE+SHARE+SHARE+SHARE+SHARE

So
Handicapped
All
Read
Easily

READING AIDS
Application

Yes, I Want
☐ Page Turner
☐ Magnifier View Table
☐ Reading Stand (Overhead Type)
☐ Reading Stand (Table Type)
☐ Bedspecs

Name ....
Street ....
Town ....
Birthdate ....

Certification to be completed by "Competent Authority." (See "Eligibility" in Attached Brochure)

This is to certify that the above person is physically unable to use conventional printed material.

Specify Physical Condition: (Example: Stroke, Polio, Glaucoma, etc.)
....

Describe how condition prevents reading ....
....

Visual Acuity (if available)
....

Corrected Vision O. D. .... O. S. ....

Date ....

Signed ....
Title ....
Agency ....
Address ....

Fig. 6.--SHARE Brochure - Application for Reading Aids

select an executive committee that would have the power to implement the decisions of the state committee and to make any necessary decisions during the intervals between committee meetings. The six-member executive committee consisted of:

Sumner J. Goffin, Chairman
Past District Governor, Lions International

Miss Ruth A. Hazelton
State Librarian, Maine State Library

Gary Nichols
State Consultant, Library Services for the Handicapped

C. Owen Pollard, Director
Div. of Eye Care & Special Services, Dept. of Health & Welfare

Mrs. Natalie D. Matthews, President
Maine Council of the Blind

Mrs. Margaret E. Hugle, Program Administrator
Maine Senior Service Corps, Div. of Economic Opportunity

The Statewide SHARE Committee included also:

Lt. Col. (USAF Ret.) Donald F. Allison, Exec. Dir.
Maine Assoc. for Retarded Children

Philip J. Macy, Exec. Dir.
Mid-State United Cerebral Palsy, Inc.

Olive Dow, Sec.-Treas.
Telephone Pioneers of America

Mrs. Robina M. Hedges
Mental Retardation Planning Coordinator, Dept. of Mental Health and Corrections
Edgar R. Tepe, PDG, President
Maine Sight Conservation Association

Mr. Elmer L. Mitchell, Director
Department of Education, Vocational Rehabilitation Div.

Mr. Richard W. Michaud, Supervisor
Services for Aging, Maine Dept. of Health & Welfare

Mr. Daniel F. Short, Assistant to the Director
Diocesan Bureau of Human Relations

Mr. Tom Thornton, District Governor
Lions International, Fort Fairfield

Dr. Carl R. Bither, District Governor
Lions International, Waldoboro

Mr. Beverly V. Trenholm, Director
Bureau of Guidance, Spe. & Adult Ed., Dept. of Education

Mr. Donald M. Goughan, President
Cerebral Palsy of Central Aroostook County, Inc.

Mrs. Ruth P. Mitchell, Exec. Sec.
United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Maine, Inc.

Norman B. Moore, Vice President
Maine Library Association

Mr. E. Joel Bois, Exec. Director
Southern Maine Chapter, The National Foundation--
March of Dimes
Mary M. Sullivan, Director
Division of Public Health Nursing, Dept. of Health
& Welfare
Brig. N.E. Sampson, Divisional Commander
The Salvation Army, Northern New England Division

Dr. Helen C. Provost, Director
Division of Child Health, Dept. of Health & Welfare

The SHARE Campaign "Activity Report" of October 3, 1969, revealed a highly organized, efficient campaign. According to the report, several meetings were held to prepare the initial committee meeting. Brochures explaining the SHARE program and the services available to the handicapped and containing applications were prepared for use by agencies cooperating in the campaign. Some 20,000 of these brochures were distributed throughout the state. About 5,000 large-print flyers describing the large-print book services available to the visually impaired were printed and distributed to libraries across the state. Some 500 easel-type posters were also displayed.

Services of the postal system were greatly utilized by the campaign organizers. Forty-five statewide organizations involved with the handicapped received letters of invitation at the beginning of the campaign. An initial mailing was sent to all libraries in the state, explaining the SHARE program in detail and soliciting cooperation. The presidents of the 100 or so Lions Clubs in Maine, directors of the 100 Senior Citizens Groups throughout Maine, and the 350 nursing home proprietors all received an initial mailing which consisted of a letter and the two-page SHARE outline explaining the program. These and many others were only "initial" mailings. They were followed by many more letters, copies of meeting minutes, and other materials. Those who did not respond to initial mailings and/or invitations received follow-up communications.

Finally, the news release played an important part in the entire campaign. News releases were sent out after the initial organizational meeting and at key points throughout the first campaign year. Feature articles and background materials were prepared for newspapers, periodicals, and bulletins of all types. A special story concerning the SHARE program was prepared for the NORTH COUNTRY LIBRARIES, the library bulletin of Maine-New Hampshire-Vermont libraries.

Cooperation was the key to the success of SHARE and it was not lacking. Arrangements were even made to have October, 1969, proclaimed "SHARE Month" for the state of Maine by the governor, Kenneth Curtis. On September 22, 1969, Governor Curtis of Maine issued the proclamation (Fig. 7, p. 49). News releases were prepared for immediate release on September 22 explaining the Governor's proclamation as well as the full SHARE Campaign.

STATE OF MAINE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, library service in this nation of high democratic ideals should be extended to all persons regardless of any physical handicap; and

WHEREAS, the sponsors of the SHARE (So Handicapped All Read Easily) Campaign seek the achievement of this objective because it would provide the means of serving all persons equally and individually without regard to physical limitations; and

WHEREAS, reading can help the handicapped individual to enlarge his world, to gain perspective, to realize a fuller and richer life; and

WHEREAS, the extension of library services to the physically handicapped will enable them to have the same reading opportunities granted to all free men and women;

NOW THEREFORE, I Kenneth M. Curtis, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 1969, as

SHARE MONTH

in the State of Maine, and call upon the citizens of this state to participate in this significant endeavor by taking an active interest in the development of a program to aid the handicapped person in achieving, through library resources, the social, educational, cultural and economic goals to which he is entitled; thus benefiting not only the handicapped but the community itself as well as society at large.

Fig. 7.--SHARE Month Proclamation
(Taken from Maine, SHARE Manual)

And thus, the immediate objectives of the SHARE Campaign "year one" seem to have been achieved indeed. The statewide committee for running the program had been formed. Effective participation of Lions Clubs and other local organizations was indeed achieved. The "Activity Report" of October 3, 1969, revealed that the publicity materials that had been planned for, had now been prepared and distributed in sufficient quantities.

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And now, with the Governor's proclamation great emphasis and attention was brought to the entire program. Efforts at public awareness certainly had not left much to chance.

A "SHARE Campaign Results" and analysis was prepared and sent to the SHARE Committee three months after the first year of the campaign closed. The results of the campaign, it was noted, are difficult to measure in numbers. Many new readers joined the talking books program during the campaign and many more reading aids were solicited from the Maine State Library. But, it is difficult to estimate how many of these would have been added had the SHARE Campaign not been conducted, or, in other words, how many of them can be attributed directly to the efforts of SHARE? ARCO's breakdown of the distribution of reading aids during the SHARE Campaign in this "SHARE Campaign Results" showed that the popularity for reading aids other than the talking books certainly did grow even as the number of talking book subscribers grew during the "year one" of SHARE.

There is no doubt that the SHARE Campaign has been effective in reaching Maine's handicapped readers with library services. Only time, however, can measure the degree of that effectiveness. If the cooperation among state, local, and private agencies and individuals serving the handicapped that has been stimulated by this campaign continues, the handicapped cannot but benefit from it. For this, SHARE will have to continue with its concerted efforts for uniting handicapped readers and library services in Maine.

SHARE CAMPAIGN RESULTS

CAMPAIGN ANALYSIS

An analysis of the SHARE Campaign done three months after the campaign closed indicates that the results from a project directed strictly toward local outlets tends to be somewhat less dramatic, but steadier and of much longer duration.

Conventional publicity through the mass media brings a sudden flurry of activity that dies out as soon as the publicity fades. However, working directly with the people at the local level and involving them in the project causes a familiarity with the subject that is recalled for some period of time. The people go on talking about it even though the campaign has passed.

Verification of this is seen in the applications still being received by the State Library and the Division of Eye Care and Special Services three months after the active campaign closed. The State Library is now receiving on an average of two applications per day requesting some type of reading aid.

Although it is extremely difficult to break down the requests and apply them strictly to the results of the campaign, it is felt that the bulk of requests received since the inception of the project are traceable to the interest generated during the campaign. Also of interest is the fact that requests for speakers on the SHARE program have developed over a period of time and tend to increase as time passes.

A breakdown of the distribution of reading aids follows:

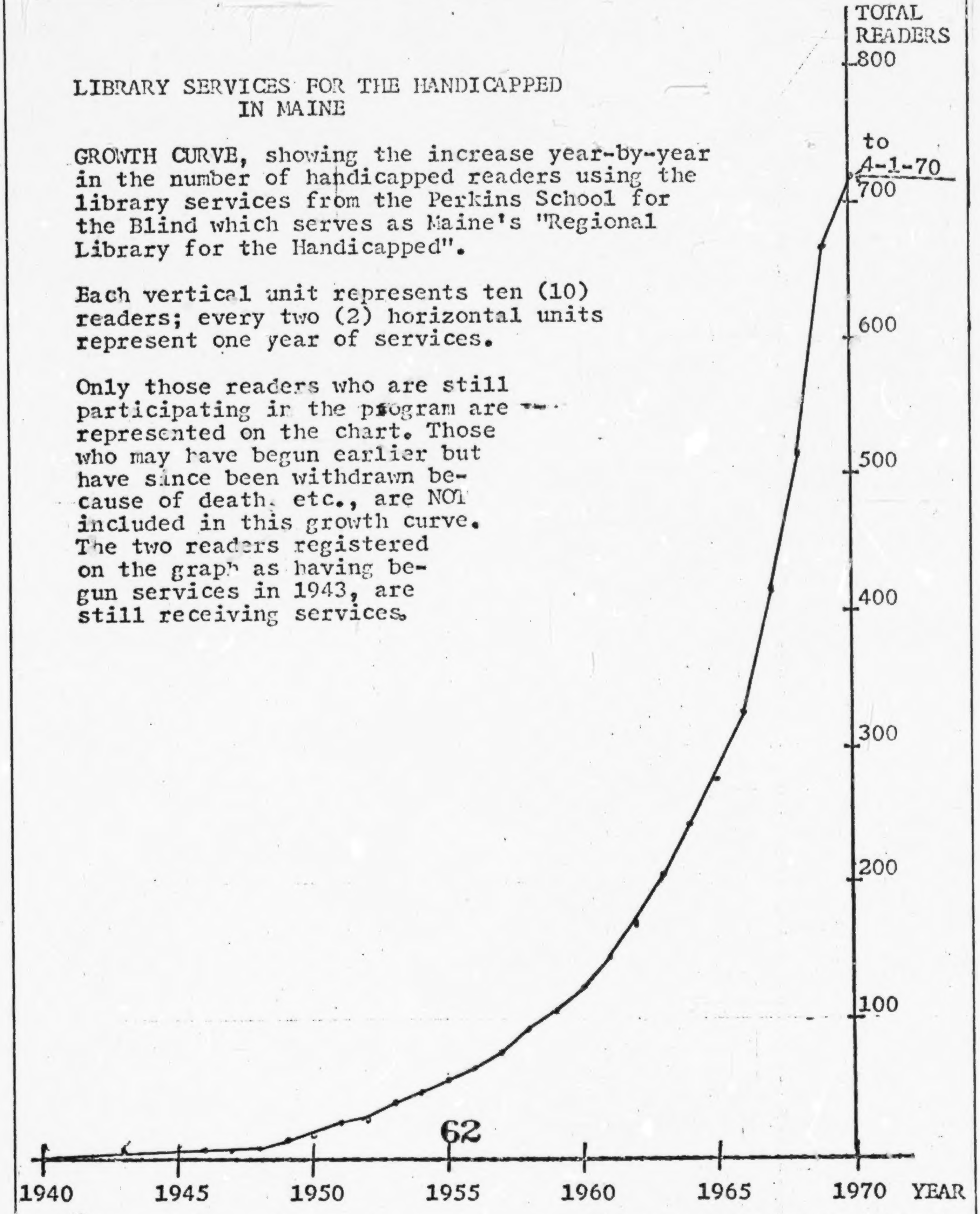
1. Bedspecs
   Thirteen distributed.
2. Magnifying sheets.
   Eight distributed.
3. Around-the-neck Magnifiers.
   Six distributed.
4. Book Butler Reading Stands.
   Four Distributed.
5. Magnifier View Tables.
   Forty distributed and 18 more orders were received that could not be filled due to lack of supply.
6. Touch Turners.
   Six distributed.
7. Talking Books.
   There were 61 new readers of Talking Books during the period of the campaign.

Fig. 8.--SHARE Campaign Results

Growth of Maine's Library Services For The Handicapped

A second look at the handicapped-readers file survey discussed in the first chapter of this report seems to point out that even now some of the effects of the 1967 survey of the physically handicapped potential users of the special library services in Maine, and even some of the effects of the SHARE Campaign's "year one" efforts, can indeed be measured. For the growth charts on the following pages, Figures 9 and 10 and Table 20, the readers presently using the Perkins' library services were arranged chronologically according to the beginning date of their participation in the program. The growth curve, Fig. 9, shows, in a cumulative tabulation, the increase in number of participants. Fig. 10, on the other hand, gives the number of new readers for each year; it is not a cumulative chart.

Of those readers presently making use of the Perkins library services in Maine, two have been with the program since 1943; one, since 1946; one since 1947; five since 1948; and two since 1949. With 1950 the growth curve begins to climb somewhat faster. In 1950, 15 of today's readers were already enrolled in the program; by 1960, a decade later, 123 of today's readers were enrolled. By 1966, the year before the first survey of the physically handicapped potential readers in Maine, that figure had jumped to 327. In the next three years and three months an additional 390 readers were enrolled. In other words, in the first 24 years represented by the growth curve approximately forty-six per cent of today's readers were enrolled while in



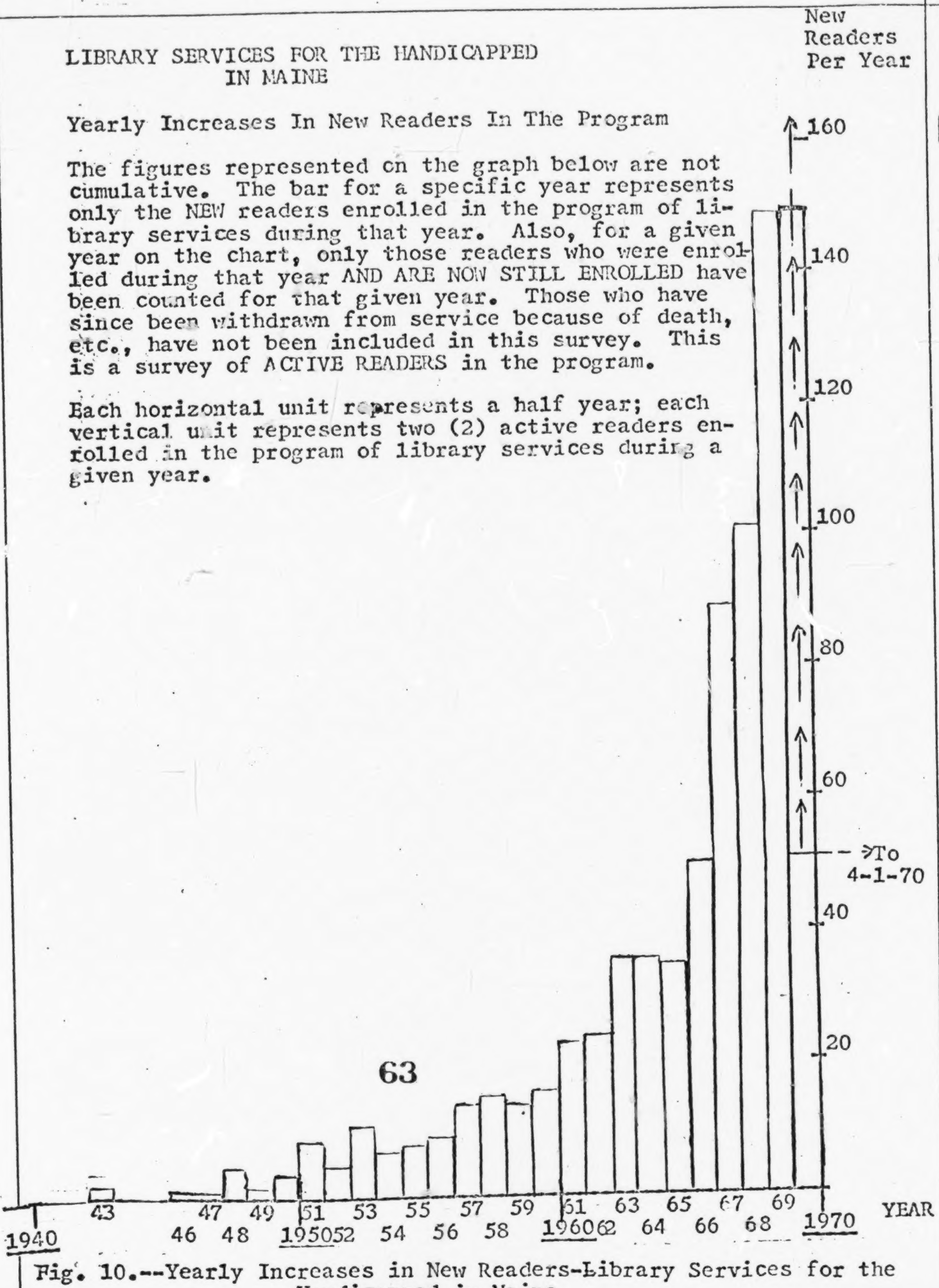
LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED
IN MAINE

GROWTH CURVE, showing the increase year-by-year in the number of handicapped readers using the library services from the Perkins School for the Blind which serves as Maine's "Regional Library for the Handicapped".

Each vertical unit represents ten (10) readers; every two (2) horizontal units represent one year of services.

Only those readers who are still participating in the program are represented on the chart. Those who may have begun earlier but have since been withdrawn because of death, etc., are NOT included in this growth curve. The two readers registered on the graph as having begun services in 1943, are still receiving services.

Fig. 9.--Growth Curve -- Library Services For The Handicapped In Maine



LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED
IN MAINE

Yearly Increases In New Readers In The Program

The figures represented on the graph below are not cumulative. The bar for a specific year represents only the NEW readers enrolled in the program of library services during that year. Also, for a given year on the chart, only those readers who were enrolled during that year AND ARE NOW STILL ENROLLED have been counted for that given year. Those who have since been withdrawn from service because of death, etc., have not been included in this survey. This is a survey of ACTIVE READERS in the program.

Each horizontal unit represents a half year; each vertical unit represents two (2) active readers enrolled in the program of library services during a given year.

Fig. 10.--Yearly Increases in New Readers-Library Services for the Handicapped in Maine

TABLE 20.--Growth of Library Services For The Handicapped In Maine

Year	New Readers	% of TOTAL Readers Now	Total Readers By End of Year	% of TOTAL Readers Now
1943	2	.3%	2	.3%
1946	1	.1%	3	.4%
1947	1	.1%	4	.5%
1948	5	.7%	9	1.2%
1949	2	.3%	11	1.5%
1950	4	.5%	15	2.0%
1951[25]	9	1 %	24	3 %
1952	5	1 %	29	4 %
1953	11	2 %	40	6 %
1954	7	1 %	47	7 %
1955	8	1 %	55	8 %
1956	9	1 %	64	9 %
1957	14	2 %	78	11 %
1958	15	2 %	93	13 %
1959	14	2 %	107	15 %
1960	16	2 %	123	17 %
1961	23	3 %	146	20 %
1962	24	4 %	170	24 %
1963	36	5 %	206	29 %
1964	36	5 %	242	34 %
1965	35	5 %	277	39 %
1966	50	7 %	327	46 %
1967	89	12 %	416	58 %
1968	101	14 %	517	72 %
1969	149	21 %	666	93 %
1970[26]	51	7 %	717	100 %

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[25] After the 1950 entry all per cents are rounded to the nearest whole per cent.

[26] Figures for "1970" on the chart take in only the first three months of the year, April 1, 1970, being the cut-off date.

the last three and one-fourth years the remaining fifty-four per cent of today's readers began to receive services.

The growth picture is equally clear on the second graph, figure 10. For each year the number of NEW readers enrolled in the program during that year is represented by the corresponding bar. For the first twenty-four years of the chart the average number of new readers per year is not quite fourteen. For the last three and one-fourth years of the chart (up to April 1, 1970), the average per year is 120 new readers, a significant increase due, without doubt, to the 1967 campaign and the SHARE program efforts. In 1966, the year before the first physically handicapped reader survey, there were fifty new handicapped readers added to the program. Eighty-nine new ones were added in 1967, and 1968 brought in another 101. The 1969 bar on the graph leaves little doubt as to the effectiveness of the SHARE Campaign; 149 new readers began receiving services through the Perkins library during that year alone. In the first quarter of 1970 the increases showed no signs of letting up; by April 1, 1970, fifty-one more readers had already been added, bringing Maine's total handicapped-reader population using library services from the regional library up to 717.

Though the number 717 is far from the total figure of eligible handicapped readers in Maine, the growth curve and new-reader bar graph certainly do show encouraging signs that the gap between the two figures, 717 and the total number of eligibles, is fast narrowing, almost daily. As ARCO reported in its "SHARE Campaign Results", "Verification of this (the effects of SHARE) is seen in the applications still being received by the State Library and the Division of Eye Care and Special Services three months after the active campaign closed. The State Library is now receiving on an average of two applications per day requesting some type of reading aid."[27]

There are many handicapped persons in Maine and many of them do need special library services if the joys and benefits of reading are to be theirs. The difficulties in making available services known and accessible to these handicapped readers are almost insurmountable at times--distances, age, language barriers, etc. But, it is most encouraging to note from the studies presented in this section of Chapter 2 that Maine workers for the handicapped are uniting to overcome even the most insurmountable of these obstacles.

The "state of the art" as far as numbers of handicapped readers are concerned is much more encouraging when it is seen as a "motion picture," progressing much more rapidly now than ever before. The "still picture" of the presently enrolled placed against that of the total number of eligibles could be rather discouraging without a backward glance revealing that the picture is really a moving picture -- of a fast progressing expansion of Maine's library services for the handicapped.

This study of Maine's handicapped readers, actual and potential, reveals that there is definitely a need for a special library services program in the state. The next section of the report, PART II - MAINE'S LIBRARY SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED READERS, will examine the agencies in Maine that are responsible for providing special library services for handicapped readers and will also discuss the services themselves.

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[27] Fig. 8.--, p. 51, "Share Campaign Results." ARCO, Inc.

PART II

MAINE'S LIBRARY SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED READERS

CHAPTER 3

MAINE'S REGIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

> "The needs which reading can satisfy for the sighted reader are every bit as real for the blind and visually handicapped (and physically handicapped). Blind readers, the majority of whom live in normal community settings, require library service in a multitude of ways--as children becoming acquainted with a child's world; as students in school; as persons learning a trade or profession in order to make a living; as citizens and voters who need to be informed; as children and adults who need factual information in connection with an infinite variety of subjects; as children and adults who have leisure time to fill; and finally, but by no means least, as people with normal ambitions, fears, and concerns who need the guidance, the stimulation and the satisfaction that reading can bring."[28]

As citizens of the United States, Maine's handicapped readers are included in the national program of library services for the handicapped with the Library of Congress, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, as its center. Authorized by the Pratt-Smoot Act in 1931 to establish the national program and to select certain libraries across the country to participate in the efforts to bring library services to all of the nation's handicapped readers, the Library of Congress established a system of "Regional Libraries for the Blind." With the advent of Public Laws 89-511 and 89-522 the physically handicapped in general who could not read or handle conventionally printed materials were made the object of the program.[29] The number of "regional libraries for the handicapped" has rapidly increased over the past four decades and today there are about forty-five of them coverning all areas of the United States geographically.

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[28] Koestler, Frances A., ed. The COMSTAC Report: Standards for Strengthened Services. (New York: National Accreditation Council For Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped, 1966), p. 195.

Maine handicapped readers are served through the regional library at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts. The Library at Watertown serves the 300 or so blind students enrolled at the school, and as "regional library" it serves handicapped readers in Massachusetts and Maine. Financially, Maine "purchases" its services for handicapped readers from Perkins. The state of Maine pays the school for the blind sixteen dollars ($16.00) for each Maine reader and/or institution served by the library as part of the national program of library services for the handicapped.

All staff members of the Library at Perkins are employees of the Perkins School for the Blind, and not of the states served by the regional library. A single staff of ten full-time personnel supplemented by part-time help serves all of the readers using Perkins' library services. The head librarian has a professional degree in librarianship. Members of the staff working as Assistant Librarian, Braille Librarian, Research Librarian, and Elementary School Librarian respectively, help carry out the library programs.

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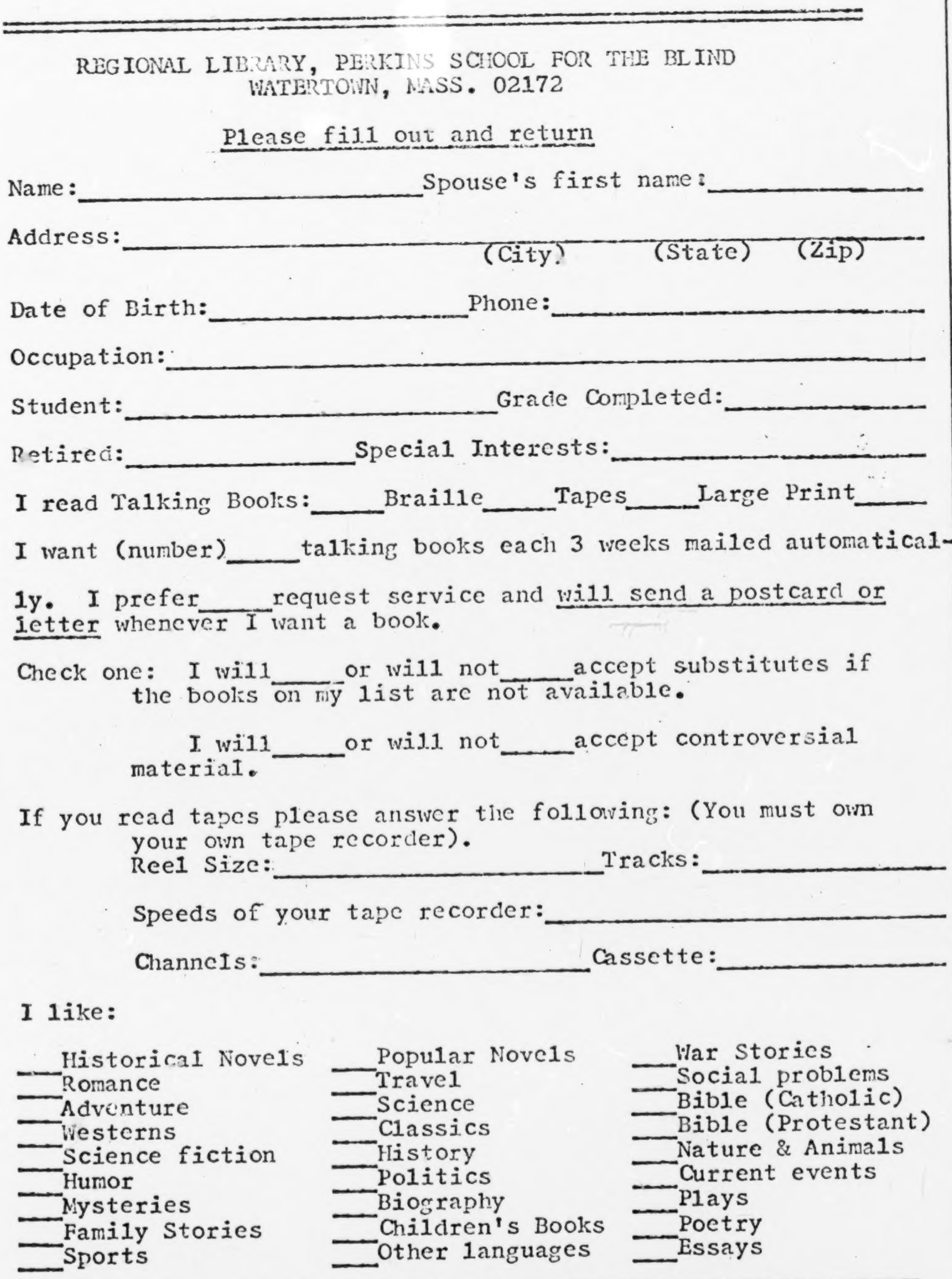
[29] Haycraft, Books for the Blind..., p. 1.

Library services provided for handicapped readers include the talking books of the Library of Congress, braille books, recorded books on tape, and bibliographic services. Talking books selected by the book-selection staff of the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Washington and recorded by professional actors and actresses on ten-inch discs at 16 2/3 rpm, giving about thirty to forty-five minutes of playing time on each side, are available to all Maine readers through the library at Perkins. Readers receive their own copies of Talking Book Topics bimonthly. Each issue lists and annotates new talking books and provides ordering forms. Each issue contains its own sound sheet which can be played at 8 1/3 rpm on the talking book machine, thereby enabling those who cannot read conventional print to benefit from the periodical anyway. Every two years these bimonthly publications are cumulated into catalogs. Each reader receives a personal copy of the catalog with a series of ordering sheets.

Readers are asked to prepare lists of about forty titles that they would like to read and send the list on to the regional library. If they wish "automatic service" some of these books from the list will be sent to them periodically, i.e., once a week, twice a month, etc. If the reader prefers, however, he may receive books only upon his request. An "information form" indicating which types of services, (automatic, etc.; talking book, braille, etc.; subject interests, etc.) he will use is kept on file at the Perkins library for each reader being served. Similar forms are kept for institutions receiving services from the regional library for their local patrons.



REGIONAL LIBRARY, PERKINS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
WATERTOWN, MASS. 02172

Please fill out and return

Name:____________ Spouse's first name:__________

Address:______________________________________
(City) (State) (Zip)

Date of Birth:__________ Phone:______________

Occupation:___________________________________

Student:______________ Grade Completed:_______

Retired:__________ Special Interests:__________

I read Talking Books:___ Braille___ Tapes___ Large Print___

I want (number)___ talking books each 3 weeks mailed automatically. I prefer___ request service and will send a postcard or letter whenever I want a book.

Check one: I will___ or will not___ accept substitutes if the books on my list are not available.

I will___ or will not___ accept controversial material.

If you read tapes please answer the following: (You must own your own tape recorder).

Reel Size:______________ Tracks:______________

Speeds of your tape recorder:__________________

Channels:______________ Cassette:____________

I like:

___Historical Novels
___Romance
___Adventure
___Westerns
___Science fiction
___Humor
___Mysteries
___Family Stories
___Sports
___Popular Novels
___Travel
___Science
___Classics
___History
___Politics
___Biography
___Children's Books
___Other languages
___War Stories
___Social problems
___Bible (Catholic)
___Bible (Protestant)
___Nature & Animals
___Current events
___Plays
___Poetry
___Essays

Fig. 11.--Library Information Form for Individual Readers From The Regional Library at Perkins School for the Blind

Large print books will be supplied through the public libraries in Massachusetts and Maine. You may write or call your local librarian if you wish to read large print books. Many librarians will deliver books to you if you are unable to come to your local library. Music recordings are sometimes available at large public libraries.

If you read large print, may we send your name to your local librarian? ____________

Fig. 11--Continued

REGIONAL LIBRARY, PERKINS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
WATERTOWN, MASS. 02172

Please fill out and return

Name of Agency:______________________________

Address:______________________________Phone:____________
(City) (State) (Zip)

Name and title of person in charge of ordering talking books:

____

Number of persons expected to use this service:

Blind: __________

Physically Handicapped:__________

Special language needs:______________________________

We want: Talking books:____Braille:____Tapes____

Ship (number)__________talking books each 3 weeks automatically.

Check one: We will_____or will not_____accept substitutes if the books on our lists are not available.

We will_____or will not_____accept controversial material.

Fig. 12.--Library Information Form for Local Institutions Using Perkins Library Services for Patrons

If you use tape, please answer the following: (You must own your own tape recorder or player).

Speeds of your tape recorder:__________________________

Tracks:__________ Channels:__________ Cassette:__________

We want:

___ Historical novels
___ Romance
___ Adventure
___ Western
___ Science Fiction
___ Humor
___ Mysteries
___ Family Stories
___ Sports

___ Popular novels
___ Science
___ Travel
___ Classics
___ Politics
___ Religion
___ Biography
___ Children's books
___ Essays

___ War stories
___ Social problems
___ Bible (Catholic)
___ Bible (Portestant)
___ Nature & Animals
___ Current Events
___ Plays
___ Poetry
___ Other Languages

Magazines wanted:

___ American Heritage
___ Atlantic & Harper's
___ Braille Technical Press
___ Changing Times
___ Choice Magazine Listening
___ Dialogue
___ Ebony
___ Ellery Queen Mystery
___ Farm Journal
___ Good Housekeeping
___ Harvest Years

___ Holiday
___ Jack & Jill
___ Look
___ Music Journal
___ Natural History
___ Newsweek
___ Ranger Rick's Nature
___ Reader's Digest
___ Selectionnes del Reader's Digest
___ Sports Illustrated
___ True

Large print books will be supplied through the public libraries in Maine and Massachusetts. You may write or call your local librarian if you wish to read large print books. The librarian can obtain a list of large print titles from the state library. Music recordings are sometimes available at large public libraries.

Fig. 12.--Continued

Careful statistics concerning the "activity" of readers are also kept by the librarian at Perkins and periodic reports of this activity are sent in to the state commissions charged with implementation of the library services for the handicapped in their respective states.

Braille readers served by Perkins library are treated in like manner. Once the library has been informed of the new reader, the information form is sent to him along with catalogs of available books and procedural instructions. Under a Title IV, Library Services and Construction Act, Grant these procedural instructions were recorded on a small disc that can be played on a talking book machine. The braille reader, like the talking book reader, can receive "automatic service" or service by request only. Records of his activity are also kept on file. Bimonthly each reader receives his own copy of Braille Book Review, listing newly available titles for readers.

The taped book is fast developing as a service for handicapped readers. Reel-to-reel tapes, recorded at 3 3/4 inches per second are available from Perkins for handicapped readers. Recently the cassette book has been introduced and is now making fast headway into the program. A catalog of some 160 titles on cassettes is now available for participants in the national program of library services for the handicapped.

The cassette book has shown its special case of adaptability to local needs in Maine where many readers do not have English as their mother tongue. For those who speak French a cassette experiment is now underway. Cassette recorders have been purchased for these readers and the French cassette books are now in the process of being recorded. The first series of French titles available on cassettes for Maine readers will include:

Le Fou De L'Ile, by Norman Félix
La Foret Perdue, by M. Genevoix
La Princesse de Clèves, by Madame de la Fayette
L'Avalée Des Avalés, by Réjean Ducharme
John F. Kennedy, Président, by Hugh Sidey
La Brousse est Ma Patrie, by Joy Adamson
Sur Toutes les Scènes du Monde (Mon Pere Avait Raison)
Un Petit Air Innocent, by William Marley
Le Lion, by Joseph Kessel

The French cassette program can certainly be a step in the direction of reaching those who have up to now stayed away from the library services for the handicapped program because of the language barrier.

In addition to the regular services provided by a regional library as described in the foregoing pages of this chapter, the librarian at Perkins School for the Blind has developed a few special services for the regional patrons of the library. Twice a year a newsletter is sent to all readers, giving new and information concerning the Perkins library services. Information concerning new services, procedures, etc., is also given in these newsletters. In addition, each reader receives along with his newsletters several self-addressed, colored envelopes for use in corresponding with his regional library. The envelopes fill two needs. First of all, they eliminate the handicapped person's need for addressing the envelopes himself; a person unable to read conventionally might very well find conventional writing still more difficult. Secondly, the colored envelopes facilitate mail receiving and sorting at the Perkins School for the Blind. Since the institution is a mammouth set-up much mail comes and goes. Color coding of the library's envelopes insures that the handicapped person's correspondence will reach the library directly and will not be lost in some other department of the school for some time before it actually reaches its intended destination. This helps in speeding up the relations between reader and librarian.

Another "special" service provided by Perkins seems insignificant at first glance but from the readers' point of view it is a valuable one. Talking books are labeled with a three by five card label bearing the reader's address on one side and the regional library's address on the reverse. The card merely slides into a slot on the face of the talking book container. Thus, when a reader has completed a book, he merely reverses the label and drops the carton in the nearest mail box. Because the labels are usually cut to fit exactly into the label slot some readers experience difficulty in pulling the label out so that it can be reversed. To solve this problem, the regional librarian at Perkins has had her labels cut to extend about a quarter of an inch from the address slot after it has been pushed in as far as it will go. The reader now has something to grasp when removing the label. A small service, it really is, but one that means a great deal to the reader who used to get frustrated when trying to reverse a label for returning his book.

Bibliographic services provided for readers by the Perkins library staff are also numerous and helpful. Besides the stock of talking books and braille materials provided to the regional libraries by the Library of Congress, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the regional library at Perkins also purchases much commercially produced materials for its patrons. Bibliographies of these materials are continually updated and printed in conventional as well as large-type editions for reader and staff use. In addition, numerous subject area bibliographies are produced. Bibliographies of talking book and braille books on home economics, careers, American politics, government, conservation and ecology, the Negro in America, and American historical fiction are but a few of the lists currently available at the regional library in Watertown, Massachusetts. Additional reading lists "for high school students" and the like, are also prepared and made available to interested readers or staff members. Finally, a list of "Annual Accessions of Books and Pamphlets" is published by the regional library.

Statistical services concerning Maine readers in conjunction with the regional library are of various types. Daily circulation statistics are kept for the blind and the handicapped readers in Maine. The circulation statistics show the number of talking books, the number of talking magazines, the number of tape books, tape magazines, and braille books and braille magazines used by Maine readers daily. In addition each category mentioned above is further subdivided according to "adult" and "juvenile" readers, the word "adult" referring to services to those readers over the age of thirteen. Each month additional statistics are recorded for Maine blind and handicapped readers. The "Reader Activity Report" is compiled monthly.

Blind
Handicapped
State: ____________

CIRCULATION STATISTICS

	TB books		TB mag.		Tape books		Tape mag.		Br. books		Br. mag.	
Date	Adult	Juv	Adult	Juv	Adult	Juv	Adult	Juv	Adult	Juv	Adult	Juv
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
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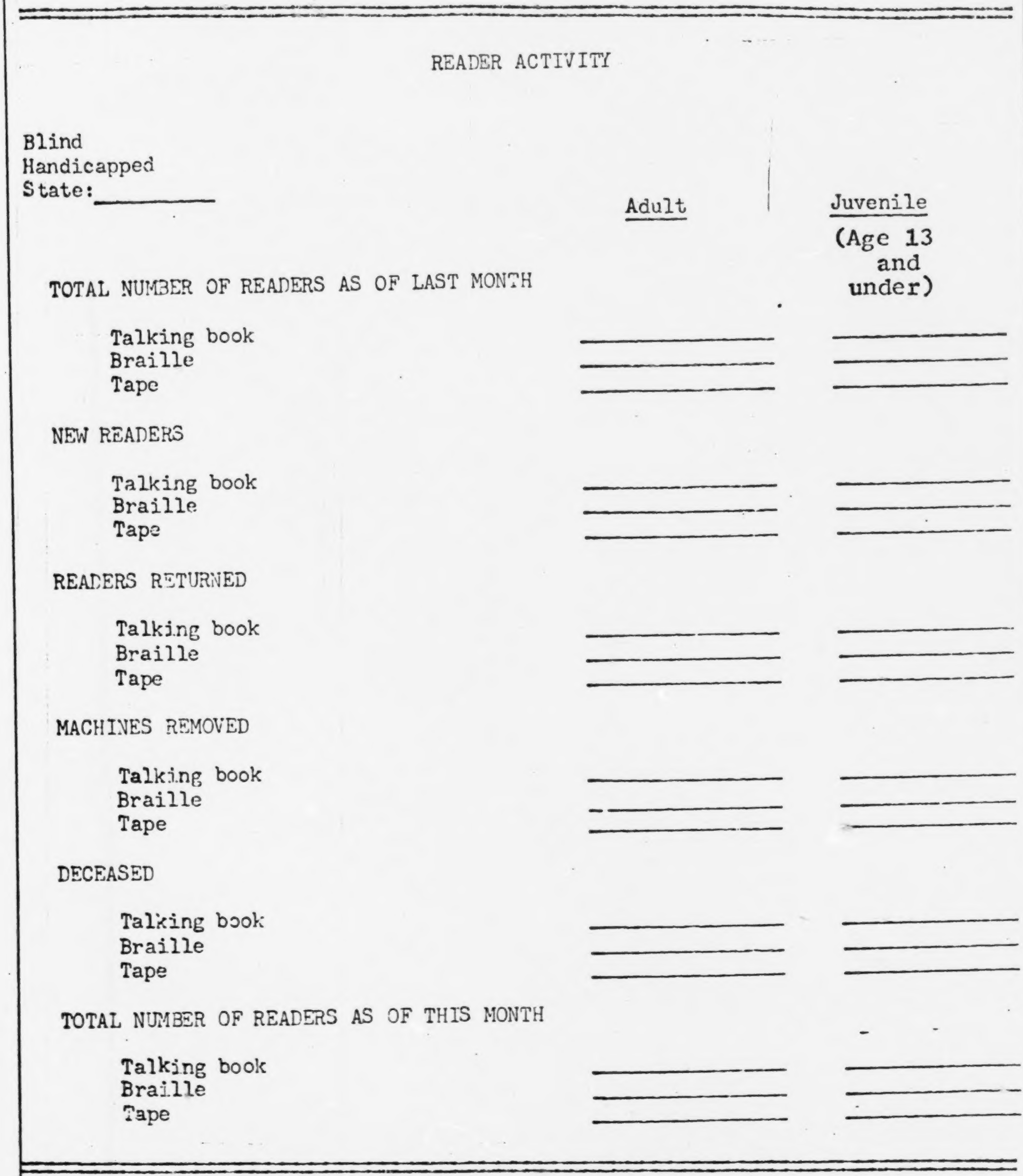
21												
22												
23												
24												
25												
26												
27												
28												
29												
30												
31												
Total												

Fig. 13--Circulation Statistics, Perkins Regional Library



READER ACTIVITY

Blind
Handicapped
State:_________

	Adult	Juvenile (Age 13 and under)
TOTAL NUMBER OF READERS AS OF LAST MONTH		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		
NEW READERS		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		
READERS RETURNED		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		
MACHINES REMOVED		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		
DECEASED		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		
TOTAL NUMBER OF READERS AS OF THIS MONTH		
Talking book		
Braille		
Tape		

Fig. 14.--Reader Activity Report, Perkins Regional Library

Any handicapped person in Maine is eligible to receive services from the regional library at the Perkins School for the Blind if he cannot read or handle conventionally printed materials because of his impairment. Prospective readers in Maine make application for services to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine. After their applications have been approved the readers' names are sent on to the librarian at Perkins. Those who will use talking book services receive the machines free of charge from the Division and a sample of talking books and catalogs from Perkins. From this point on they can deal directly with their regional librarian.

Many readers find it difficult to believe that "all they have to do" is fill in the application form and have it certified by competent authority (librarian, teacher, doctor, nurse, minister, etc.). There is very little "red tape" involved in enrolling in the services. The application (Fig. 15, page 73) is the reader's ticket to participation in the national program of library services for the handicapped. And, it is through his regional library at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts, that the Maine reader actually does participate in that national program.

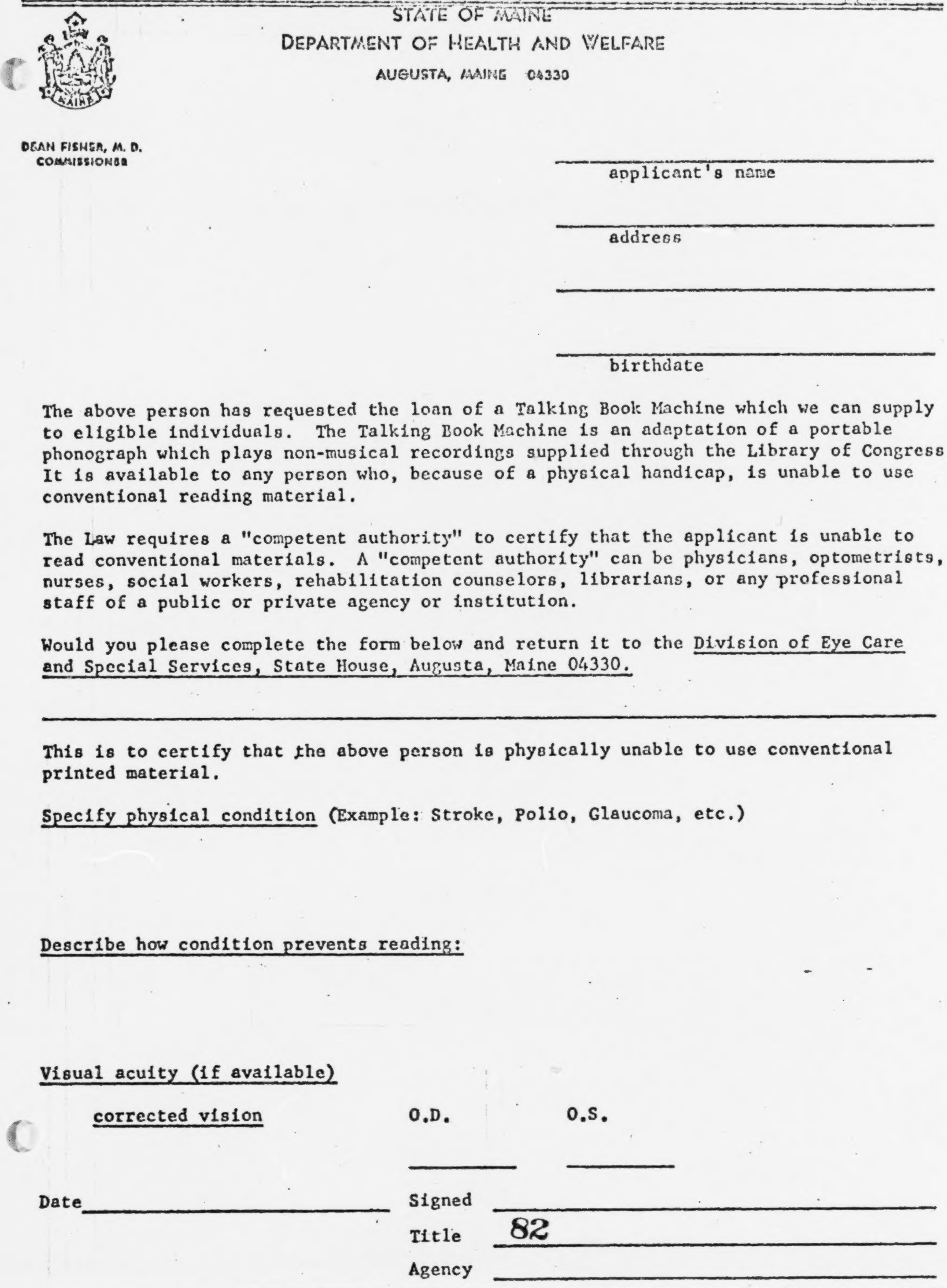


Fig. 15.--Application Form for Library Services for the Handicapped

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

DEAN FISHER, M. D.
COMMISSIONER

applicant's name

address

birthdate

The above person has requested the loan of a Talking Book Machine which we can supply to eligible individuals. The Talking Book Machine is an adaptation of a portable phonograph which plays non-musical recordings supplied through the Library of Congress. It is available to any person who, because of a physical handicap, is unable to use conventional reading material.

The Law requires a "competent authority" to certify that the applicant is unable to read conventional materials. A "competent authority" can be physicians, optometrists, nurses, social workers, rehabilitation counselors, librarians, or any professional staff of a public or private agency or institution.

Would you please complete the form below and return it to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, State House, Augusta, Maine 04330.

This is to certify that the above person is physically unable to use conventional printed material.

Specify physical condition (Example: Stroke, Polio, Glaucoma, etc.)

Describe how condition prevents reading:

Visual acuity (if available)

corrected vision O.D. ______ O.S. ______

Date ______________ Signed ______________

Title ______________

Agency ______________

CHAPTER 4

MAINE'S TALKING BOOK MACHINE DISTRIBUTING AGENCY

> "The Division of Eye Care and Special Services is the state agency in Maine designated by the Library of Congress for the distribution of Talking Book machines. Both the machines and recorders are loaned without charge to any individual unable to read conventional print because of a physical handicap.
>
> When a machine needs repair or replacement or when a person experiences difficulty in obtaing recordings the reader will notify this state agency. We will arrange for repair or replacement of machine free of charge.
>
> The Division of Eye Care and Special Services is responsible for obtaining braille, large print, tapes, tape recorders and records that may be essential to an education or rehabilitation plan."[30]

Since Maine has no "regional library" of its own, Maine readers are served through the library at the Perkins School for the Blind, discussed in Chapter 3. All Maine readers, however, receiving services from Perkins must first apply to the Division of Eye Care and Special Services of the Department of Health and Welfare in Augusta.

Eligibility for services, discussed in Chapter 1, is determined at the Division of Eye Care. A statement of certification of an individual reader's inability to use conventionally printed books must be submitted in writing by competent authority (optometrist, physician, nurse, professional staff member of a hospital, rehabilitation center, institution, health or welfare agency, or librarian[31]) and the Division of Eye Care and Special Services reserves the right to have such a certification reviewed by medical optometric consultant before allowing participation in the program.[32] The applicant's certification statement must contain his full name and address, a description of the condition preventing him from using conventional printed materials, and his visual acuity if low vision is his chief reason for requesting special services.[33]

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[30] Maine, Dept. of Health & Welfare, Div. of Eye Care, Policy and Procedural Manual, "Library Service to the Visually and Physically Handicapped," p.1

Any person living in Maine may receive special library services through "Maine channels" once his eligibility has been cleared. There are no other "residence" requirements. When a reader already enrolled in the services moves to Maine he can begin to receive services again as soon as his former regional library forwards notification of his moving to his new regional library. When a Maine reader moves to another state he must notify the Division of Eye Care and Special Services so that this agency can in turn notify the state agency or library where he is moving. Thus, reading services need not be interrupted or stopped because of moving, etc.

The exact application procedures are spelled out clearly in the Division of Eye Care's procedural manual quoted previously:

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[31] Maine, Dept. of Health & Welfare, Div. of Eye Care, *Policy and Procedural Manual*, "Library Services to the Visually and Physically Handicapped," p.2.

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] *Ibid.*

> "Any request for service by a prospective reader or by a person on his behalf will constitute an application for a Talking Book Machine. When the request is made by an individual or agency in behalf of a prospective reader, initial correspondence will be directed to the referring party unless otherwise requested. When the prospective reader initiates the request correspondence will be directed to him. On receipt of a request for service this agency will:
>
> 1. Forward to the applicant or referring party:
>   a. A letter briefly explaining the Talking Book Machine service and explaining steps to be taken to obtain a machine.
>   b. A certification statement to be completed by a competent authority and returned to this agency.
>
> 2. When the certification statement is received in this office it will be reviewed for eligibility, and
>   a. If the applicant is eligible he will be notified by a letter that he is eligible and a machine will be mailed to him.
>   b. If he is not eligible he will be notified by letter explaining the reason he is not eligible.
>   c. Eligible readers will be registered with the library that will distribute the records to the reader.
>   d. A machine will be mailed to the eligible applicant.
>   e. The reader will be advised concerning care, repair, and return of the machine that is being loaned to him."[34]

The Division of Eye Care and Special Services keeps up-to-date reader files containing entries for all currently enrolled in the program of library services for the handicapped. Statistics for the readers file survey discussed in part one of this report were computed from an analysis of this file by the author. At the beginning of April, 1970, 717 applications that had been cleared with the Division and were now in the active reader file.

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[34] Maine, Department of Health & Welfare, Div. of Eye Care, Policy & Procedural Manual, "Library Services...", p. 2-3.

Besides the talking books program of the Library of Congress the Division of Eye Care and Special Services is also responsible for procuring needed textbooks under various forms for handicapped students in the state.

> "Requests for textbooks on tape or in braille are referred to the Central Office of the Division of Eye Care for clearance as to their availability elsewhere in the state or at the American Printing House when not available from commercial sources. If it is not available through these resources then requests for taping are sent to the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind (Portland, Maine), and braille books are hand transcribed by volunteers... One staff member of the Division working in Augusta has been assigned to clearing the lists submitted by the educational counselors, tutors, etc."[35]

The basic philosophy underlying the Division's services to the visually and physically handicapped is that these handicapped persons must be enabled to take their place in normal society, as contributing members of that society. "The purpose

> of educational services to the visually impaired is to train the child to take his place in society as a contributing member. The blind and visually impaired child, like the sighted, should have the opportunity to develop into an able and active citizen, with a home, a family and the ability to earn an adequate living. Throughout his life he will move in a sighted environment with the necessity of competing on an equal basis with sighted individuals. Therefore, wherever possible, the educational needs of the visually impaired child should be met in his own community. Living in his own home and attending regular school classes will reduce the chances of isolation and dependency. Group participation with his visually nonimpaired classmates in community and school activities is a most valuable part of any visually impaired child's experiences, offering him the best preparation for his future role as a valuable citizen in a sighted world."[36]

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[35] American Foundation for the Blind. Up-Dating of Program Review: Division of Eye Care and Special Services, Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine, May 6-11, 1968. (New York: A.F.B., 1968), p. 20.

[36] Maine, Dept. of Hea. & Wel., Div. of Eye Care, Policy & Procedural Manual, "Education," p. 1.

An evaluation of the services provided by the Division of Eye Care and Special Services was updated in 1968 and states, "About 90 per cent of the visually-impaired children are in their own community schools. This is an excellent percentage."[37] Any special services in materials, tutoring, travel, etc., that the impaired child may need to compete in the sighted world are provided for him by the Division of Eye Care. Resource rooms (to be discussed in Chapter 6) are being created in schools in the state, giving the handicapped the special services which they need (learning braille, typing, etc.).

There are no resident schools for the blind or visually impaired in Maine. When it is possible they are enrolled in the local schools. If residential care is needed the services of the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts, or of other out-of-state resident schools for the handicapped, are purchased by the Division of Eye Care for the individual concerned.

Financially, it must be remembered that the Division of Eye Care and Special Services is part of the Department of Health and Welfare in Maine. A budget, prepared in cooperation with the Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, is then reviewed and becomes part of the Department's budget. Payment for library services from Perkins is on a cooperative agreement between the Division of Eye Care and the Maine State Library. A total of sixteen dollars ($16.00) per handicapped person or agency receiving services is paid to the Perkins School for the Blind to help cover the costs of staff and space and facilities needed to provide those services.

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[37] American Foundation for the Blind, Up-Dating of Program Review..., p. 6.

And so, a handicapped person in Maine wishing to read makes his application with the Division of Eye Care and Special Services in Augusta, is cleared for eligibility, receives his machine, and then participates in the national program of library services for the handicapped through Maine's regional library at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts. Many individuals in Maine, however, are handicapped to a lesser degree and, while not needing reading under another form--braille, talking books, etc.--, they could use other "special library services" that would enable them to read more and enjoy their reading more. When such readers apply for "special library services" they are aided by the Maine State Library which is responsible for library services to the physically handicapped in Maine.

CHAPTER 5

THE MAINE STATE LIBRARY AND MAINE'S HANDICAPPED READERS

The Division of Eye Care and Special Services of the Department of Health and Welfare in Maine is responsible for the talking-book and braille program of services which Maine handicapped readers receive through the regional library. Other reading aids and library services for Maine's handicapped readers are administered by the Maine State Library in close cooperation with the Division of Eye Care and in cooperation with Maine's public libraries and other agencies serving the handicapped throughout the state. With the introduction of the physically handicapped in the program of library services for the handicapped in 1966, the State Library's role in the Maine program of services is becoming more and more important. A professional librarian has been added to the staff at the State Library to serve as Consultant for Library Services for the Visually and Physically Handicapped, Title IV, Library Services and Construction Act. The State Library staff has worked very closely with the Division of Eye Care and Special Services and other agencies in both the 1967 preliminary survey of the physically handicapped potential users of the library services program and also in the SHARE Campaign of this past year.

The Maine State Library serves as a central depository for reading aids other than the talking book machines and braille materials. Through the public libraries in local communities and other agencies serving the handicapped locally, reading aids such as bedspecs, page turners, reading stands, and all types of magnifiers are circulated from the State Library to the handicapped readers in need of them. Cooperation of local libraries in the program of library services for local handicapped readers is growing and has been greatly stimulated by the SHARE Campaign of 1969. Flyers prepared during the SHARE Campaign (Figures 16 through 24, pages 82 through 90 respectively) described all of the available reading aids from the Division of Eye Care and the Maine State Library and were distributed to all of the cooperating public libraries in order to acquaint librarians and their patrons with the available aids.

In its updating of the evaluation of services in 1968, the American Foundation for the Blind reported:

> "The State Librarian has canvassed every public library in the state as to their interest in having a demonstration or display of Talking Book machines; and offered financial support for each to have a selection of large print books, magnifiers, etc. It is discouraging to learn that only six local libraries sought to avail themselves of this service for their readers. Perhaps another alternative would be to place literature about the Library of Congress and the Division of Eye Care programs at a readily available space in each of the local libraries, such as on bulletin boards."[38]

A brief survey of the State Library's circulation file for special aids for the handicapped since the SHARE Campaign seems

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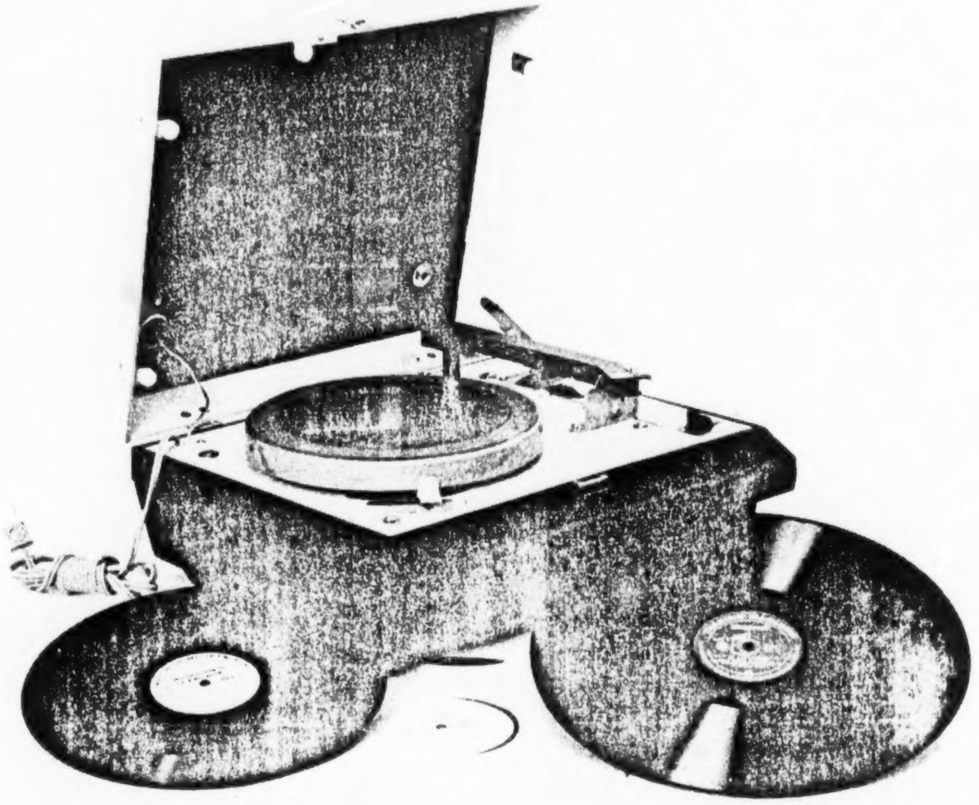
[38] American Foundation For The Blind, Up-Dating of Program Review..., p. 19-20.

Fig. 16.-- TALKING BOOK MACHINE



Item: Talking Book Machine

Size: 15½ x 14½ inches, 9½ inches deep

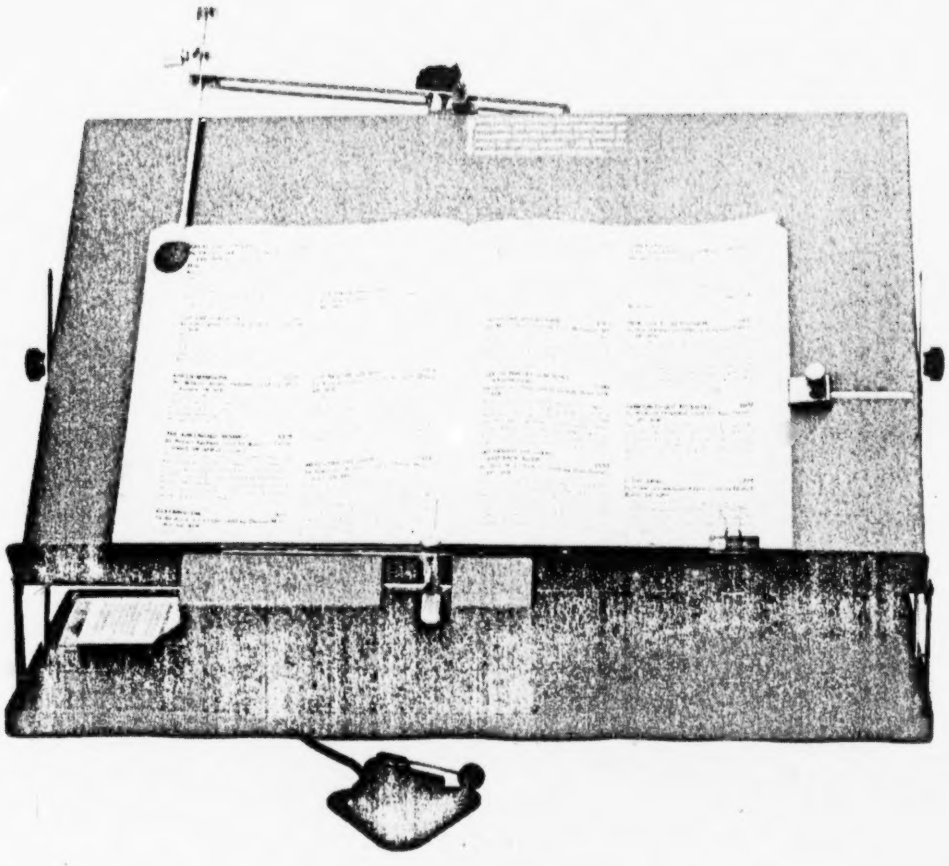
Availability: Division of Eye Care and Special Services of the Department of Health and Welfare, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

A lightweight, portable record player designed especially for operation by blind persons. The machine has three speeds: 33 1/3, 16 2/3, and 8 1/3 rpm. The tone arm contains a reversable needle designed for long-playing records and is easily replaced. The machine can be played anywhere in the home, is simple to operate and can be modified to meet the needs of the handicapped. Earphones are available as an added convenience. The Talking Books are record discs with about 45 minutes playing time on each side. There may be several records to a complete book. A wide variety of recorded magazines are also available. Once a reader is enrolled in the program he receives basic cataloges and bi-monthly magazine supplements to choose individual Talking Books. Selections are made for all age levels including children's stories, student reading needs, young adult and adult books.

The machines are available on loan free of charge and can be used for as long as needed. Machines and records are supplied by the Division of Eye Care.

Fig. 17.--PAGE TURNER (LAKELAND ELECTRICAL TYPE)



Item: Page Turner (Lakeland electrical type)

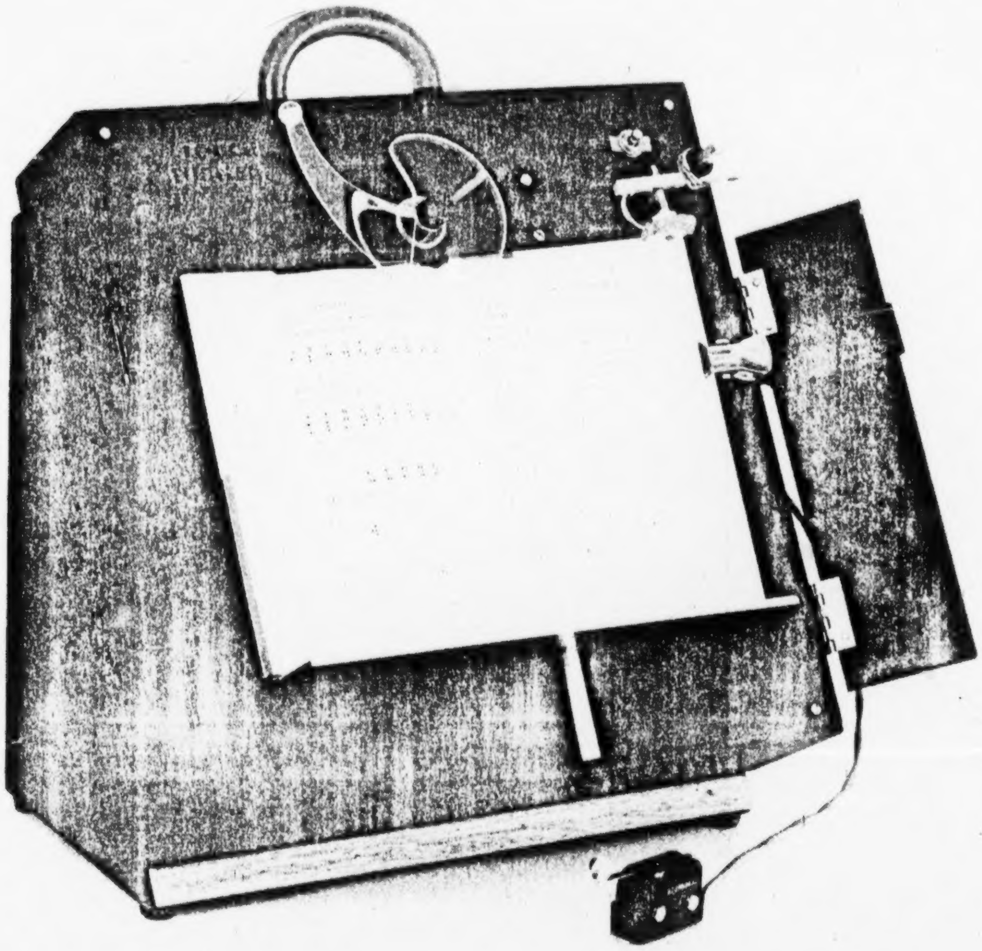
Size: 15 x 23½ inches

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

This page turner is designed to take over the function of turning the pages of books and magazines for those whose arms, hands and fingers are incapacitated. This device is operated by a feather-light, momentary touch of the electric switch, requiring less than 1/8 inch of movement by any part of the body even just the flexing of a muscle. An arm with silicone plastic on the end presses on the page and turns it by pulling it to the left. A wire operates to keep the left page held flat. The turner can be placed on any overbed table, work table, or wheel chair table. An adjustable base tilts the book or magazine to any vertical position. Weighs 11 pounds.

Fig. 18.-- PAGE TURNER (CORDLESS TYPE)



Item: Page Turner (Cordless type)

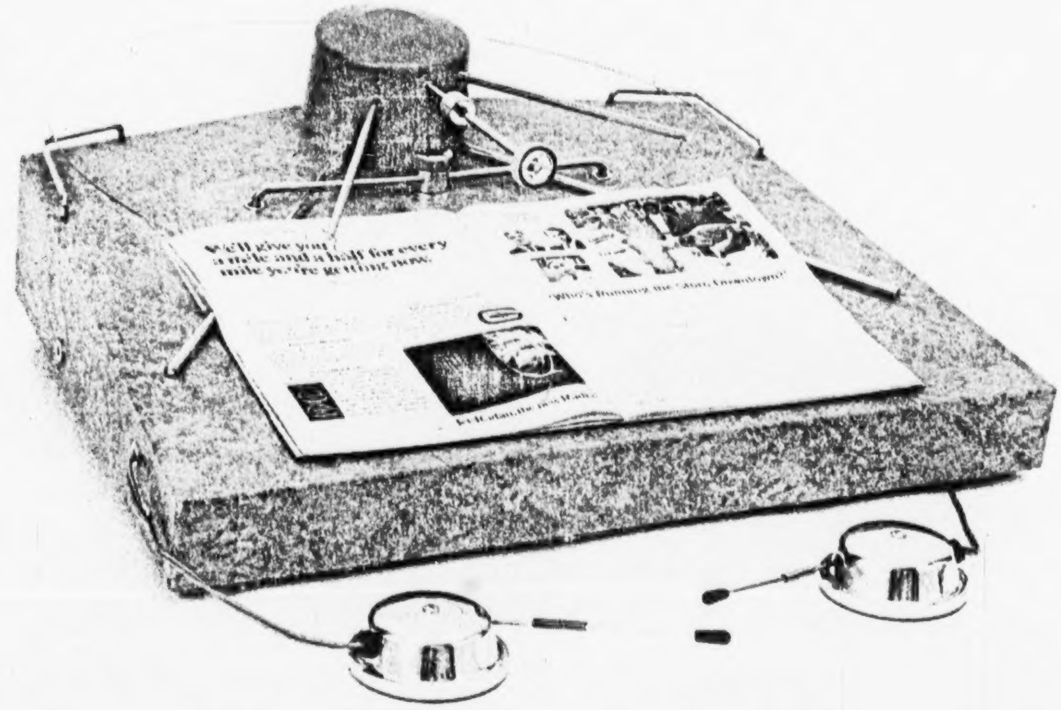
Size: 15 inches square and 4 inches deep. (23¼ inches long with side panels extended for large magazines)

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

Enables those who are unable to hold a book or turn pages to do so with the aid of the machine. A slight touch on the sensitive switch actuates a motor which causes a silicon plastic to engage the top page, and lifts it. A second motor revolves an arm which turns a page and holds it in position until the reader is ready for another page. Accomodates all magazines, paper-bound books and hard covered books up to 1½ inches thick. The cordless model uses a 12 volt battery, and can be used anywhere without the bother of cords or the availability of an outlet. Can be used in bed, in a wheelchair, or outdoors. Light, portable, and easy to operate. Removable bracket allows reading positions of flat, thirty degrees, or sixty degrees. Weighs 12½ pounds with battery.

Fig. 19.--PAGE TURNER (TURN-A-PAGE, ELECTRIC)



Item: Page Turner (Turn-a-page, electric)

Size: 24 x 20 inches

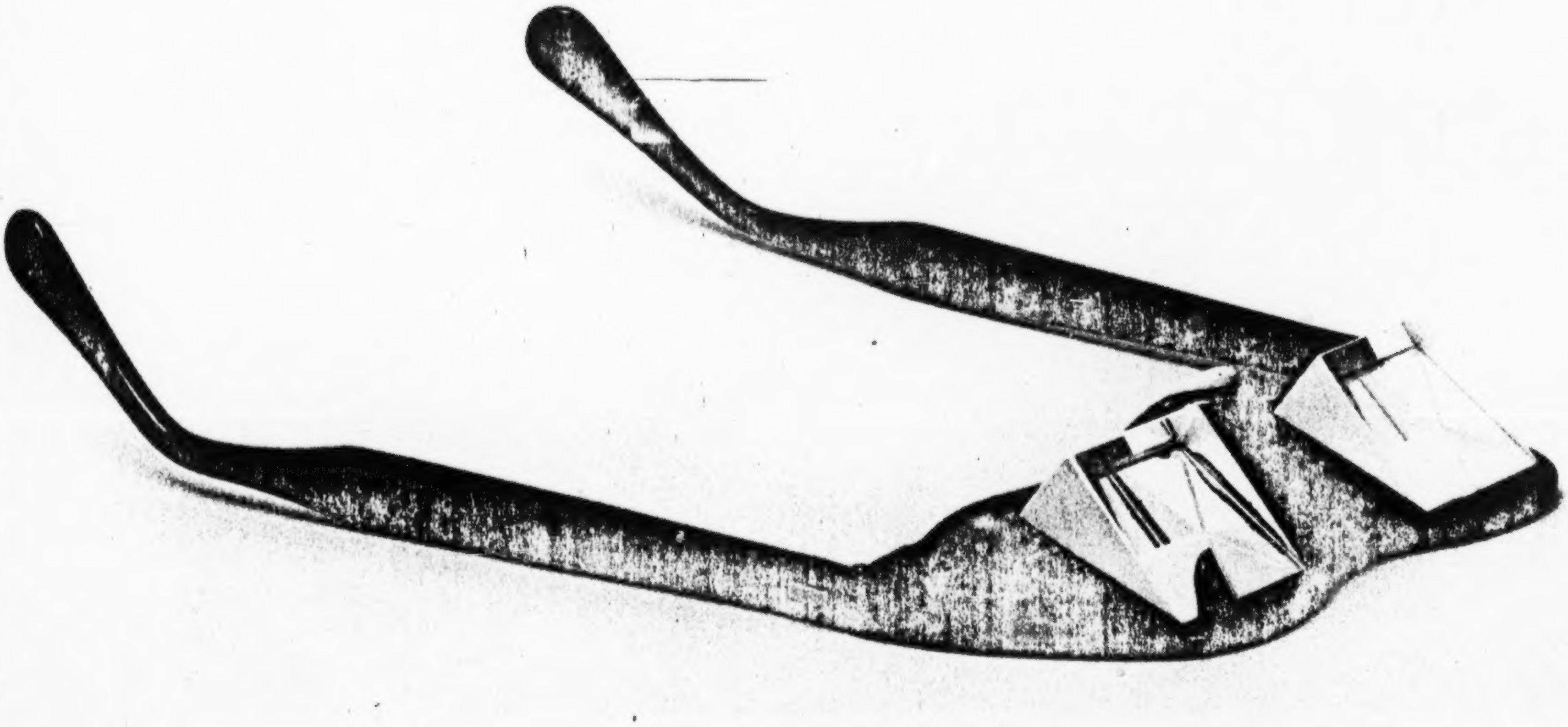
Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

This device meets the page turning needs for those who are immobile as well as those of the more seriously involved spastic. A very slight touch of one of the two switches is sufficient activation to complete the cycle of turning one page in whichever direction is desired. The switch mechanism is so sensitive that when properly placed near the user the puff of his cheek is sufficient movement to operate the machine.

The two arms that hold the book or magazine in place automatically adjust the machine to pick up at the correct point for any page. An arm, rotating in a complete circle, drops into a page, turns it by pushing it. Pages are kept flat by a wire circle operating in conjunction with the rotating arm. It operates on any electrical outlet. The machine is slightly inclined for easy reading.

Fig. 20.-- BEDSPECS



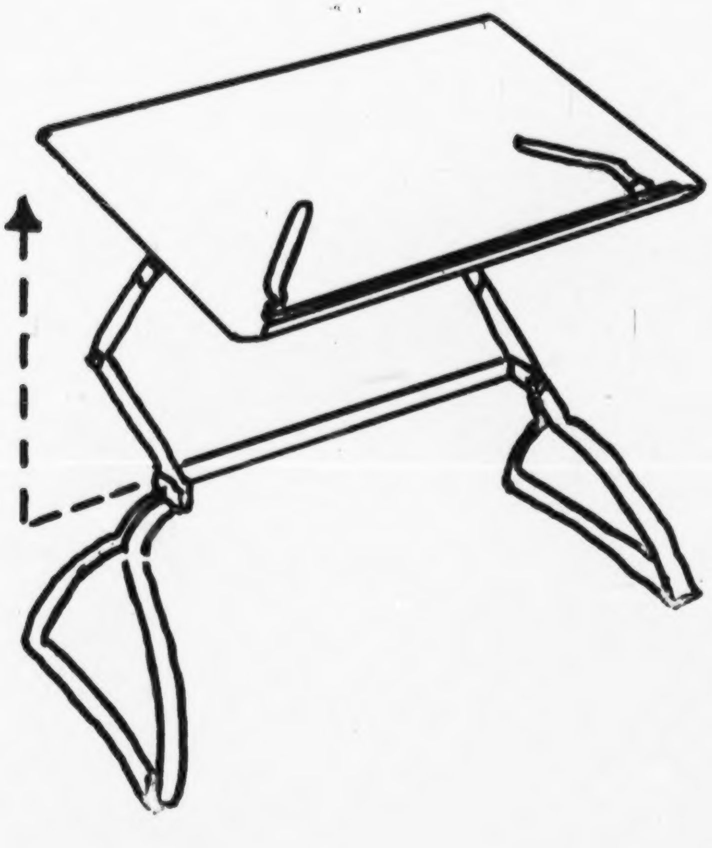
Item: Bedspecs

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

Prism type glasses which provide right-angle reading; a patient lying flat on his back or resting in a reclining position can read a book or magazine propped on the chest or abdomen. Optically correct, the glasses require no professional fitting and may be worn with or without regular glasses. They are, however, difficult to use over bifocals. Even with this limitation prism glasses are a useful and popular piece of equipment since they provide a clear, slightly magnified image, and may be useful, as well, in mitigating some undesirable effects of reading or viewing while lying flat.

Fig. 21.--EASY-READ ALL PURPOSE READING STAND



Item: Easy-Read All Purpose Reading Stand

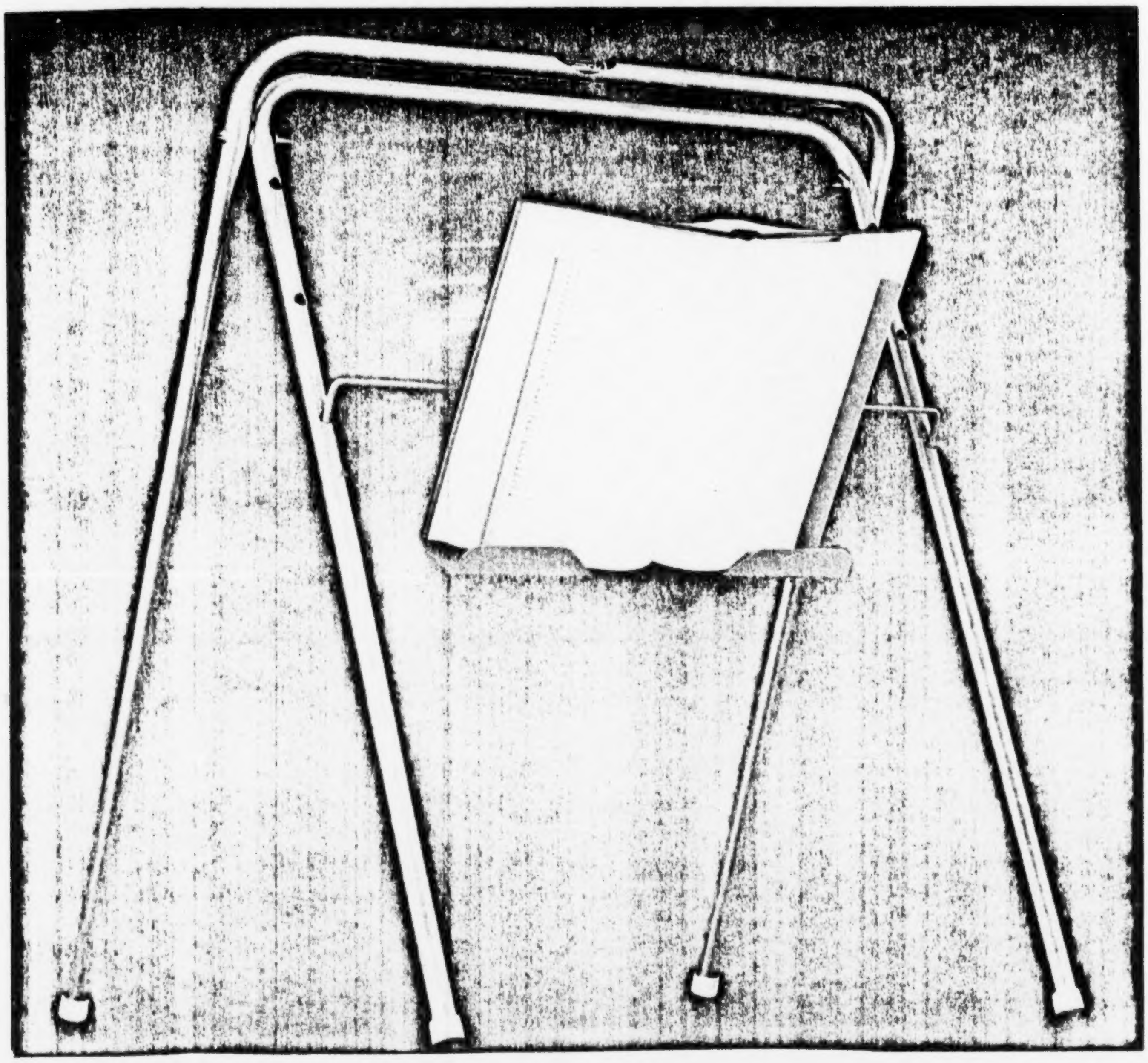
Size: Top is 11½ x 20 inches

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

A lightweight stand for reading or writing in bed or in an easy chair. The top tilts and stays at any angle without mechanical adjustment. It raises to a height of 17 inches and holds magazines or the heaviest books. Folds flat for carrying.

Fig. 22.--BOOK BUTLER READING STAND



Item: Book Butler Reading Stand

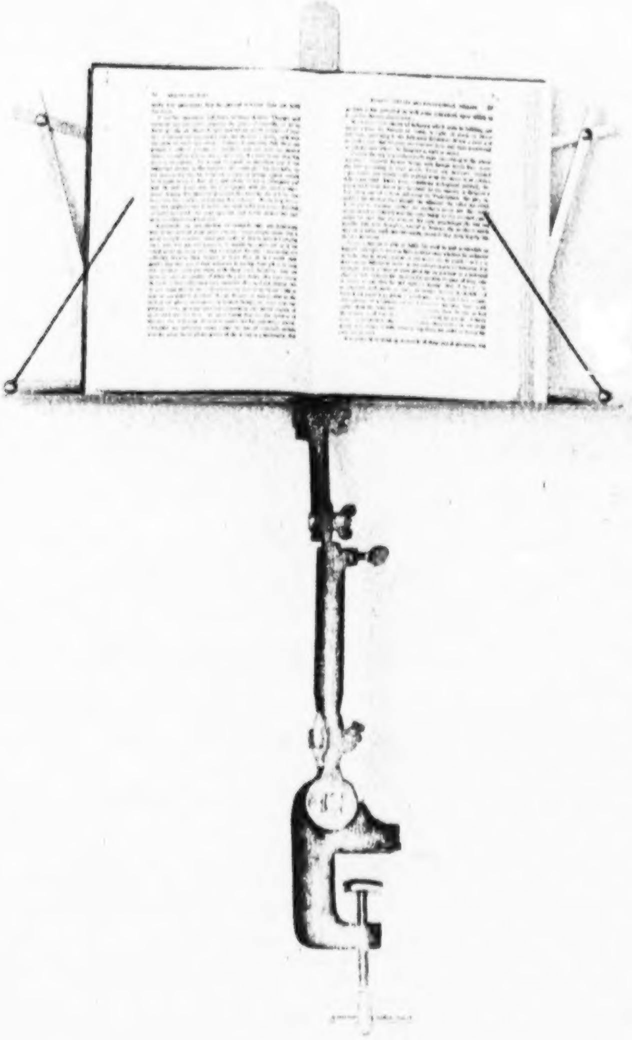
Size: Adjusts to different sizes

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

A sturdy light weight aluminum frame with steel book holder adjustable to six different positions. It will hold a book directly overhead, enabling the patient to read while lying on his back. Handicapped or immobilized patients may turn pages easily with mouth stick or rubber-tipped pencil. A simple clamping attachment allows reading with the patient lying on his side. Pages may be turned with one hand even with the book directly overhead.

Fig. 23.--GORE READING STAND



Item: Gore Reading Stand

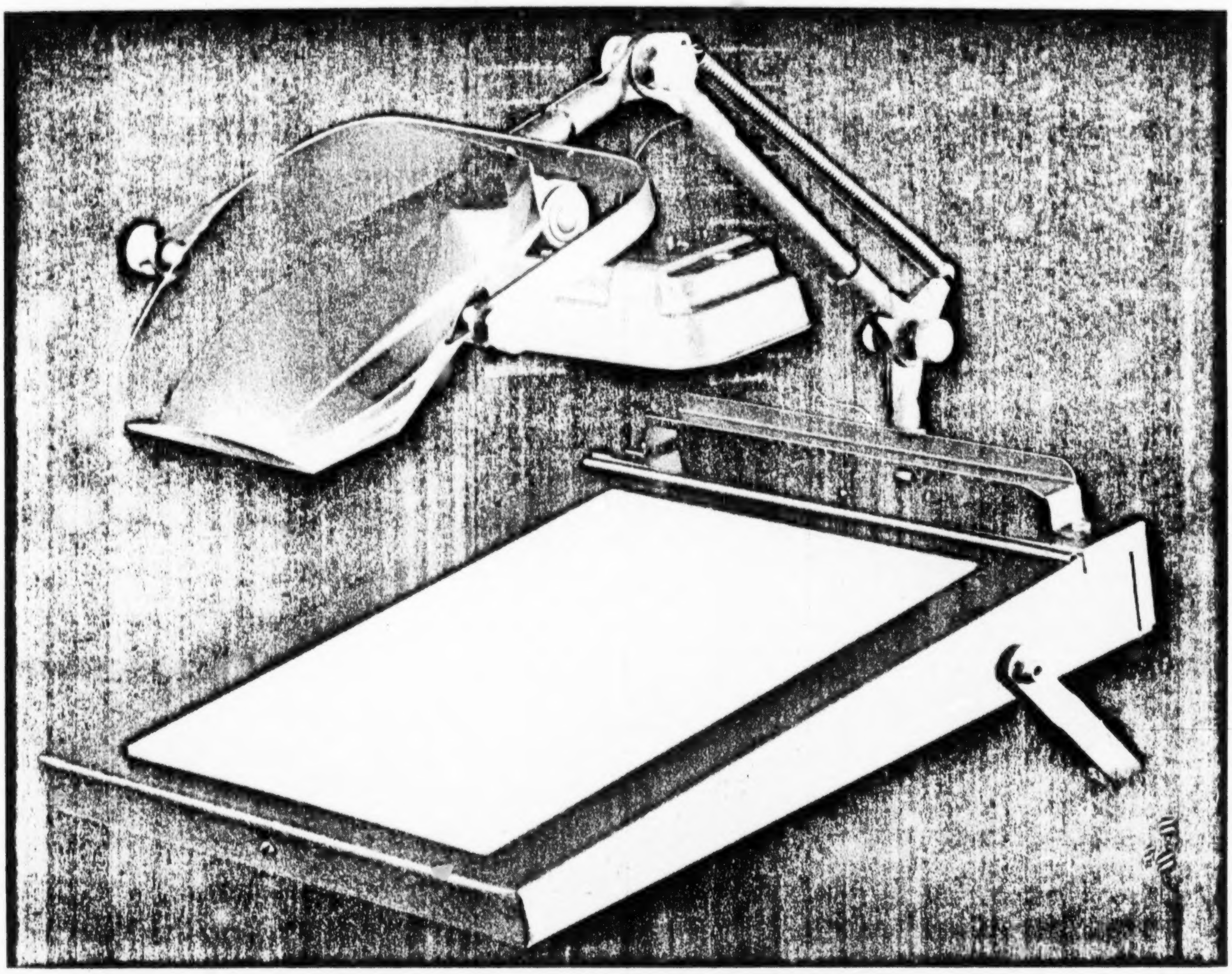
Size: Extension from 6 1/2 to 12 inches

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

A table model, four-jointed with one arm permissable for extension from 6½ to 12 inches. It is provided with a C - clamp for attaching to a table or desk. A music-stand type of book holder.

Fig. 24.-- MAGNIFIER VIEW TABLE



Item: Magnifier View Table

Size: 12 x 17 inches

Availability: Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine 04330

Use:

The magnifier is an optical device which magnifies the fine print of ordinary materials to a large print size. It must be used on a table or desk. The device comes assembled except that the lens must be inserted and a stretch spring must be hooked into a notch.

It can be used to read letters, or any personal correspondence, book, magazine, and pamphlet. The device can easily be adjusted to several positions for individual viewing preferences. Light sources are built into the machine for easy viewing and can be used with any electrical outlet.

to indicate that perhaps the picture is already changing. Some 153 loans of reading aids have been made from the State Library since late 1968 (up to April 1, 1970). Of these 153 circulations, 107 were transacted through Maine's public libraries. Almost seventy per cent of all the loans made were made through public libraries. The rest of the circulations were made either to individuals directly or were made through or to nursing homes, etc. Forty-one (41) different public libraries were involved in these 107 circulations. The picture does, indeed, look brighter already.

The National Library Week Teachers Library Handbook, prepared for Maine teachers in the 1969 National Library Week, states that "Maine has 253 public libraries, and more than forty special libraries located throughout the state, in addition to college libraries."[39] There is still a long way to go before complete cooperation of all of these libraries is achieved, but, the development that has occurred just since the American Foundation for the Blind made its 1968 report gives great encouragement. The SHARE Campaign has, without doubt, had much to do with this stimulus to state-local cooperation, just as it has also influenced the growth of the talking-books program in Maine and the number of services loaned to physically handicapped readers.

The circulation statistics for State Library reading aids show that in 1968 there were about a dozen loans of special reading aids recorded. In 1969 eighty such loans to Maine's handicapped readers were made, and in the first quarter of 1970 there have already been fifty-eight more circulations of special library reading aids. A breakdown by type of aid loaned during this period (late 1968 to April 1, 1970) would go as follows:

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[39] Maine, 1969 State National Library Week Committee & Maine State Library, NLW Teachers Library Handbook, (Augusta, Maine: State Library & NLW Committee, 1969), p. 12.

Page Turners	- 18 loans made;	- 13 through libraries;
Around-the-Neck Magnifiers	- 10 loans made;	- 7 through libraries;
Magnifying Sheets	- 26 loans made;	- 8 through libraries;
Bedspecs	- 17 loans made;	- 11 through libraries;
Easy Read All Pubpose Reading Stands	- 7 loans made;	- 7 through libraries;
Book Butler Reading Stands	- 4 loans made;	- 4 through libraries;
Magnifier View Tables	- 71 loans made;	- 57 through libraries.

When the Library Services and Construction Act was amended in 1966 with Title IV B permitting library services for the physically handicapped with Federal Funds, each state had to draw up its "plan" for providing these services before funds could be made available to it. In Maine, the task of drawing up this "state plan" fell to the state library staff. Figure 25, page 93ff, is the plan which was prepared, submitted, and approved. Under the provisions of the act Maine's grant of funds from the Federal government, to be matched with state funds, was $25,075. The State Library received funds on the basis of figures submitted by the Division of Eye Care.

PLAN SECTION NUMBER 6.0

STATE Maine

FISCAL YEAR 1968

6.0 Library Services to the Physically Handicapped - Title IV Part B.

6.1 Policies and objectives.

A preliminary survey of potential users has been valuable as a means of highlighting the need for further extension of library service to the physically handicapped, including the blind and the visually handicapped. It will be our objective to involve all public libraries and agencies working with the physically handicapped in our effort to identify these handicapped people and make available to them a high quality of library service. All plans and programs will be carried out in close cooperation with the Division of Eye Care and Special Services of the State Department of Health and Welfare.

The State Agency considers the following authorities competent to certify that a person is physically unable to use conventional print: optometrist, physician, nurse, librarian, professional staff of a hospital, rehabilitation center, health or welfare agency. The statement of certification must contain the following minimum information: applicant's full name and address; description of the physical condition and how it prevents the applicant from using conventional printed materials; visual acuity when available, if poor vision is the major factor.

Long-range goals include service to the physically handicapped in the overall goal of equal access to good library service for every resident of the State.

Immediate plans call for increased professional library staff at the State Library as well as additional clerical staff to assist in organizing the material now available to the physically handicapped through the Division of Eye Care and Special Services such as the Braille editions, large print texts, recordings and tapes; encouragement and assistance will be given to public libraries in developing service to the handicapped in their communities.

The Talking Book program will be expanded to include any physically handicapped persons. Although not financed under Title IV B, an extension of the Talking Book

Fig. 25.--Maine, State Plan, L.S.C.A., Title IV-B program is planned whereby public libraries open at least five days a week will be given an opportunity to have a Talking Book machine and a deposit collection of books. This will assist considerably in publicizing the program and in making this material more readily available throughout the state.

On the basis of information provided by the preliminary survey, reading aids such as page turners, magnifiers, and prismatic lenses will be made available both through the public libraries and through agencies working with the physically handicapped. A more intensive survey will be carried out for the purpose of determining potential need for the various reading aids available to the physically handicapped.

There are no public or other non-profit libraries, agencies or organizations which are ineligible under State law to participate in the program.

6.2 Criteria - participation-

6.21 Criteria - priorities and methods of distribution

At the outset participation in the program by libraries and agencies and organizations working with the physically handicapped will consist of applications for one of the various reading aids (page turner, magnifier, etc.) which we plan to make available. Priority will be assigned on the basis of greatest potential use. For instance, placing a page turner in a nursing home or an institution where it will be available to several persons would be given priority over an application from an individual.

All appropriate libraries and all agencies and organizations working with the physically handicapped will be sent complete information concerning the program.

6.22 Assurance of opportunity to participate

All appropriate libraries, agencies, and organizations for the physically handicapped will be given an opportunity to participate in the program.

6.3 Maintenance of effort

Funds available from sources other than Federal sources in any fiscal year for expenditures for library services to the physically handicapped will not be less than the actual expenditures from such sources in the second fiscal year preceding the year in which the

Fig. 25.--Continued

State seeks a payment from the Federal allotment available under Part B of Title IV of the Act.

6.4 Council

Representatives of eligible agencies were invited to a preliminary planning meeting. From this group a Council of six members has been chosen representing the Cerebral Palsy Association, Special Education of Handicapped (Dept. of Education), Public Health Nursing (Dept. of Health and Welfare), Family Services (Dept. of Health and Welfare), Eye Care and Special Services (Dept. of Health and Welfare), and public libraries.

Title IV B Council

Mr. Owen Pollard, Director, Division of Eye Care and Special Services

Mrs. Elizabeth G. Morrison, Cerebral Palsy Center, Portland, Maine

Mr. Beverly Trenholm, Dept. of Education

Miss Mary M. Sullivan, Director Public Health Nursing

Mr. Robert Wyllie, Division of Family Services

Mr. Robert Woodward, Librarian Bangor Public Library

Fig. 25.--Continued

The role of Maine's public libraries in providing library services for local handicapped readers is becoming ever more important. Partially responsible for this, along with the cooperation stimulated by the SHARE Campaign, is the State Libraries policy to loan its reading aids through the institutions whenever possible. With a state as large as Maine, such "regionalization" of the services will help conquer the geographical barriers separating many handicapped persons from "equal library services."

The role of the Maine State Library, itself, which has taken on increased importance since the advent of services to the physically handicapped in 1966, is now an indispensible role in library services program. Maine's emphasis on, and success in using, other aids than the talking books and brailled materials for handicapped readers have made this role necessary. The wide variety of aids available to Maine readers makes for a more individualized approach to the special library services program, but it also necessitates an active central depository agency, the State Library, and the cooperation of local agencies.

CHAPTER 6

OTHER AGENCIES PROVIDING LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED READERS IN MAINE

The services provided for handicapped readers in Maine by the Regional Library at the Perkins School for the Blind, the Division of Eye Care and Special Services, and the Maine State Library are supplemented in many areas by other smaller agencies in Maine dealing with the handicapped. In this chapter four of these supplementary agencies will be considered: the Bureau of Guidance and Special Education of the Department of Education; the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind, in Portland, Maine; the Blind Children's Resource Center at the Cathedral School in Portland, Maine; and the Blind Children's Resource Center at the Sacred Hearth School in Auburn, Maine.

The Bureau of Guidance and Special Education

The State Department of Education in Maine is responsible for the education of handicapped or exceptional children. The *Administrative Handbook* of this department defines the handicapped or exceptional child as "any child under twenty-one years of age able to benefit from an instructional program approved by the state board whose parents or guardian maintains a home for his family in any administrative unit within the

State, and whose educational needs cannot be adequately provided for through the usual facilities and services of the public schools, because of the physical or mental deviations of such child."[40] "Special services" provided for such children by this department are defined in the same work as "transportation; tutoring; corrective teaching, such as speech reading, speech correction, sight conservation and similar forms of instruction; and provision of special seats, books and teaching supplies and equipment required for the instruction of handicapped or exceptional children."[41]

Special programs for the education of the handicapped in Maine are provided by the Department of Education in the following areas: the partially sighted, speech handicapped, hearing handicapped, homebound (both permanent and temporary cases), orthopedically handicapped, Whatever special texts or reading aids are necessary for the education of all cases under the care of the Bureau of Guidance and Special Education of the Department of Education are provided on a cost-free basis for the child concerned. It is in this way especially that the Bureau supplements the broad program of library services for the handicapped in Maine. Cooperation is again the characteristic which helps the extension of available services to more of Maine's handicapped readers. Through the cooperation of the Division of Eye Care and the Bureau of Guidance and Special Education and the Maine State Library the library needs of an individual handicapped person -- educational needs, recreational needs, and informational needs--are provided for. The Bureau of Guidance and Special Education plays its vital role in extending library services to the handicapped readers in the area of their educational needs.

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[40] Maine, Department of Education, Bureau of Guidance and Special Education. *Special Education: Administrative Handbook*, (Augusta, Maine: Dept. of Education, 1966), p. 7.

[41] *Ibid.*, p. 7.

Downeast Recording Library For The Blind

An institution in Maine very closely linked to both the Division of Eye Care and the Bureau of Special Education in that it too is concerned with the education of the visually handicapped in Maine is the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind in Portland, Maine. Described in its own brochure, "Downeast Recording Library for the Blind, Incorporated, transfers the textbooks Maine's young blind cannot see to tape recordings they can hear, enabling them to live at home while learning alongside the sighted in public schools and in college. A non-profit voluntary service unique in Maine in the field of education for the blind, it puts books at the blind student's beck and call statewide, offering a kind of seeing and a way of learning not yet to be had in many parts of the country. Through its recording team of more than seventy men and women volunteer readers Downeast Recording Library offers Sound-Sight."[42]

Taped texts go out to readers all over Maine from the Downeast studio on Campbell Street in Portland. Four soundproof booths are available for recording in morning, afternoon, and evening recording sessions. Volunteers give two hours of their time weekly to this work for Maine's handicapped readers. When possible students purchase their own tapes; otherwise they are purchased by the Division of Eye Care for the students.

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[42] Downeast Recording Library for the Blind, Inc. Why It Is...What It Is...Where It Came From...Where It's Going... (Portland, Maine, No Date), unpaged brochure.

The work of the recording library has been chiefly financed by private donations, but in early 1970 efforts have been made toward making it a state agency. In 1963 the new thirty by fifty-foot building on Campbell Street in Portland was constructed and furnished and completely paid for by gifts. The founder and Executive Director of the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind, Inc., is Donald W. Loveday, himself blind since the mid-1950's. Presently the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind serves especially handicapped students in Maine.

Plans are in motion now to serve all Maine's handicapped readers with a supplement to the Library of Congress Talking Book program. Books about Maine, by Maine authors, concerts by Maine musicians, Maine plays, and Maine humor will be emphasized in this new library program for Maine's handicapped readers. The operation of the program is proposed to be on a free lending library basis.[43] With this "Maine library program" the Downeast Recording Library for the Blind will be even more supplementary to the broad program of library services for the handicapped than it already is. Adding local-color and local-interest materials to the collection of available literature for the handicapped will be a valuable service for Maine readers.

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[43] Downeast Recording Library for the Blind, unpaged brochure.

Maine's Blind Children's Resource Centers

Two "resource centers" now exist in Maine for elementary school children attending the local school. In 1958 Sr. Mary Miguel, R.S.M., opened the State's first Blind Children's Resource Center in one room of the Cathedral Grammar School in Portland, Maine. In reviewing the programs for the blind in Maine in 1965, the American Foundation for the Blind, Inc., had this to say concerning Sr. Miguel's center: "The only present resource room program for children in the elementary grades, located in the Cathedral Grammar School, is excellent. The teachers emphasize two essential areas in their work with individual children: development of essential academic skills which permit full participation in the activities of the regular classroom where the children spend a major part of their time and, development of special skills such as typing, listening and good grooming, etc., which enable visually handicapped children to compensate for the effects of visual loss and to participate effectively and efficiently in the academic and social life of the school."[44]

The Blind Children's Resource Center is independent of the Cathedral School but is housed within the school that the handicapped children may be integrated with sighted children in regular classrooms and recreations. At the resource center the students learn the special skills needed for their participation in the sighted world of the school. Materials under all forms, braille, large type, recorded, etc., are available in the resource center for the students in the program. By means of volunteer hand-transcribing and use of the braille thermoform machine braille works needed by the students are produced at the center.

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[44] American Foundation for the Blind, Program Review, 1965, p. 17.

Tuition, $2,200, is paid by the state, Division of Eye Care, for each student participating in the Blind Children's resource center programs. Other financial support for the work and running of the resource center is derived from private donations. Center-sponsored food sales, and other programs, help bring in financial support that is needed for the purchase of materials and expansion of facilities in the Portland Center.

In 1964 another Blind Children's Resource Center was opened for handicapped children, this time of the Lewiston-Auburn, Maine area. This center, at the Sacred Heart School in Auburn, Maine, headed by Sr. Harriet Grondin, C.S.J., now caters to some fifteen students in grades 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8, and ranging in ages from 8 to 15. Four of the students are on large print media and the other eleven, on braille.

Financially, the tuition for students utilizing the Blind Children's Resource Center in Auburn is also paid by the Division of Eye Care, $2,200 per student per year. In addition, Sr. Harriet has obtained under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act a grant under Title I for the resource center and funds under Title II have been used to purchase needed library materials for the center. The resource center has recently acquired its own braille thermoform machine for local production of needed braille copies.

A school bus, donated to the Blind Children's Resource Center in Auburn, picks up the handicapped students each morning and takes them home in the afternoons. The students attend classes with the sighted children in the parochial grammar school. Needed extra skills for participation with sighted classmates are picked up in the resource room. Talking book materials, braille books, large print typewriters, and braille-writers are all available for student use in the center as well as a host of other materials for teaching the youngsters the elements of daily living.

Both resource centers, as stated in the A.F.B. report, are "excellent." They are real libraries, adapting their services to the real needs and abilities of their clientele. They add an essential supplement to Maine's broad program of library services for its handicapped readers.

CHAPTER 7

A FORWARD LOOK

Library services for the handicapped in Maine have been greatly stimulated by the SHARE Campaign of 1969. The organizers of the campaign realized that a sudden burst of enthusiasm which died off as quickly as it had grown up would not benefit the program of services in the long run. A continued effort was essential and the campaign was so organized as to sustain a continued effort toward ever widening and strengthening services.

Library services for the handicapped in Maine must continue to develop, to reach more readers, to reach them in new ways, with new and better materials, to reach them more efficiently, to reach them on a more personal basis, in short, to serve them still better. The recommendations for the strengthening of Maine's library services to the handicapped which follow are based on the principles stated in The COMSTAC Report: Standards for Strengthened Services, as underlying the national program of library services for the blind and visually handicapped. The standards give these principles only in terms of the "blind and visually handicapped" but the phrase "physically handicapped" could be substituted and the principles would still be valid.

> "The low density of blind population requires a broader base of support and service than that which may suffice for sighted readers. The larger units of government--federal, regional, and state--therefore, play an essential role in support and provision of

> library resources for the blind and visually handicapped, and this role should be both continued and strengthened."[45]

Concerning the "state" support recommended herein, the cooperative actions of the Maine State Library and the Division of Eye Care and Special Services of the Department of Health and Welfare recently in organizing and supporting the SHARE Campaign for enlarging and strengthening services for the handicapped in Maine is a step in the direction recommended. These are the state agencies designated for the provision of such services and their leadership is needed in any program to extend such services. Perhaps this role of support and leadership could be strengthened in Maine if more direct access were available for Maine readers to participate in the Talking Books program. The Standards state, "Each state should maintain a library for the blind if it has a potential for at least 1000 users."[46] Maine's estimated legally blind population was quoted earlier as approximately 2,000; with the physically handicapped in general now participating in the program there is no doubt concerning Maine's possibility of having at least 1,000 users of a library for the handicapped. The 1965 American Foundation for the Blind Report on the evaluation of Maine's services says "Following national trends of consolidating reading materials and services for blind persons, it seems reasonable that Maine could make use of a central service which would be closer to the people using such materials. These would include talking book machines presently distributed by the

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[45] Koestler, The COMSTAC Report, pp. 201-203.

[46] *Ibid.*, p. 205.

Division of Eye Care, and the library of braille, large print and recorded materials distributed from Perkins School for the Blind. Such a change would require provision for additional space, staff, and budget in Maine."[47]

If a regional library within the state is not financially possible at present, perhaps combined services with the New Hampshire Library for the Handicapped would be worth investigating once this library is well organized and running smoothly. This latter arrangement would bring the services for Maine readers closer to Maine and would also strengthen already existing cooperative library ventures between Maine and New Hampshire and Vermont.

> "Responsibility for blind and visually handicapped readers does not stop at the federal and state levels. Since blindness knows no geographical barriers, any community, school, college, business, profession or other group may be the setting in which a blind person functions. The library agency which serves any of these groups should be prepared, within reasonable limits, to see that the needs of the blind members of the group are served as well as those of the sighted members. Services to be rendered by the community library range from bibliographic assistance and referral in some situations to the actual provision of materials in others."

In this point too, Maine is to be commended for SHARE. It was pointed out that in a canvassing by the State Librarian only six out of 253 of Maine's public libraries sought to avail themselves of materials for their handicapped readers in 1967. Less than three full years later, however, materials for the handicapped are being circulated from the State Library through the local public libraries. Because of the scattered population of blind and physically handicapped readers in Maine supplying all libraries with materials for the handicapped could involve much duplication and waste of resources needed elsewhere. Minimally, however, each public library in the state should be enrolled on the mailing list for Talking Book Topics and Braille Book Review and their cumulations. Current catalogs and information concerning library services and aids for the handicapped should be available in every library in the state.

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[47] American Foundation for the Blind, Program Review, 1965, p. 45.

Perhaps a "sub-regional library" system could be set up in Maine. With the Maine State Library and the Division of Eye Care (or a single regional library) at the center of the system linking it with the national program, perhaps four to six larger libraries in key locations in the state could be invited to participate as "regional" libraries for the handicapped in their respective areas of the state. Supplies of talking book machines and other reading aids could be deposited at each library in the system as well as a rotating depository collection of braille and talking book and large print materials. These libraries could then either filter the materials to the handicapped through their own local libraries or directly if this is more convenient. Costs of the system, staffing, space, etc., should be shared by the communities proportionately according to the number of handicapped individuals served in each community, supplemented with state funds.

> "Every kind of library should make a special effort to include blind and visually handicapped people in all the services provided for sighted patrons. Needs for book talks, story hours, vacation reading programs, adult education activities, musical events and reader advisory services are the same for all people--sighted and blind--regardless of the form of the books supplied

> to fill the individual need. Application of these standards is not limited to libraries which serve blind people exclusively but extends to all agencies which render or might render library services to blind and visually handicapped people--public libraries, school libraries, college libraries, regional libraries for the blind and others."

It is clear from what has gone before that Maine's basic philosphy in dealing with handicapped persons is that they can become contributing members of society if the necessary aids are supplied. In keeping with this philosophy, every library in the state where handicapped persons form part of the clientele, actual or potential, ways should be sought to include them in the library programs and activities. Special activities for the handicapped are not sought, but ways for incorporating the handicapped in normal activities are desperately needed.

> "While blind and visually handicapped people in any community are apt to be relatively few in number, the range of their reading needs may run the full gamut of human knowledge. Adequate library service to blind and visually handicapped readers is possible only if all libraries--those which generally serve sighted readers as well as those which generally serve blind readers--are systematically linked together into an integrated system specifically designed to bring together these readers and special library materials for their reading needs."

Two recommendations spring from this principle. First of all, the possibility of several "library-Materials-For-The-Handicapped-Mobiles" in the state should be seriously investigated. Several bookmobiles could be so constructed as to be equipped with library materials for the handicapped instead of conventional reading materials. These mobiles could circulate, perhaps one for each region in the state based on population spread, periodically bringing library services directly to towns and cities where handicapped persons are known to reside.

Secondly, until a formal system of libraries serving Maine's handicapped could be set up, what would be the possibility of some sort of "free" telephone hook-up between the handicapped and their regional library, a system that would facilitate direct and immediate service? Perhaps a sum of money could be left with the regional librarian and collect calls from Maine readers would then be permitted and paid for with this sum, to be replenished as needed.

The sole aim in all of these recommendations is merely to bring reader and service closer together so that thereby time and resources may be used more efficiently, more services may be possible, and more handicapped persons may be reached with them. The library system, the library-service-for-the-handicapped-mobile, the "free" telephone access to the library, ... are all recommended as more direct means of bringing library services to Maine's handicapped readers. Such direct service would be another step toward providing the handicapped with equal access to library resources in Maine, the goal proposed in the Governor's SHARE Proclamation and in the Maine "State Plan" presented for funds under the Library Services and Construction Act, Title IV B.

CONCLUSION

> "Whereas, library service in this nation of high democratic ideals should be extended to all persons regardless of any physical handicap; and..."
> (Maine Governor's "SHARE Month Proclamation)

> "Long-range goals include service to the physically handicapped in the overall goal of equal access to good library service for every resident of the State."
> (Maine State "Plan", L.S.C.A., Title IV-B.)

The program of library services for the handicapped has indeed grown in the late sixties in Maine. The number of talking books and braille readers using the regional library services has more than doubled in the last three years or so. The number of reading aids other than the talking books and braille has also more than doubled as far as use is concerned. Maine is truly moving toward "equal access to good library service for every resident of the State."

In the first part of the state of the art report it was shown that Maine's program of library services is not only needed presently because of the number of users but also has great potential use for future years of expansion and strengthened services. The second section of this work emphasized the agencies serving the handicapped. "Cooperation" is the chief characteristic responsible for the recent growth of these services, and it is also the characteristic that can help Maine to achieve its goal of "equal access." Cooperation that all may read will bring about an efficient, effective and personal program of library services reaching all of Maine's handicapped readers.

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